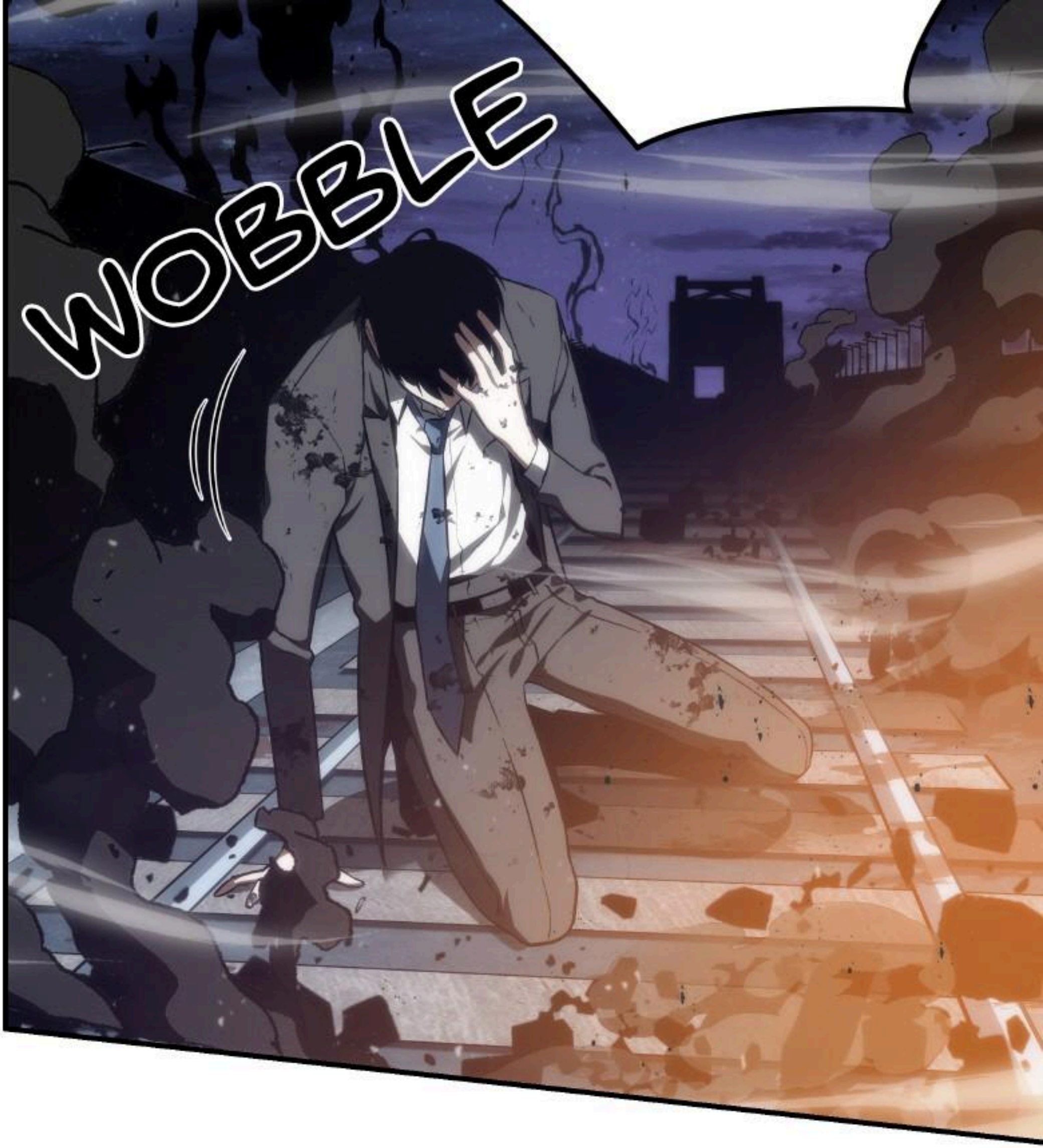
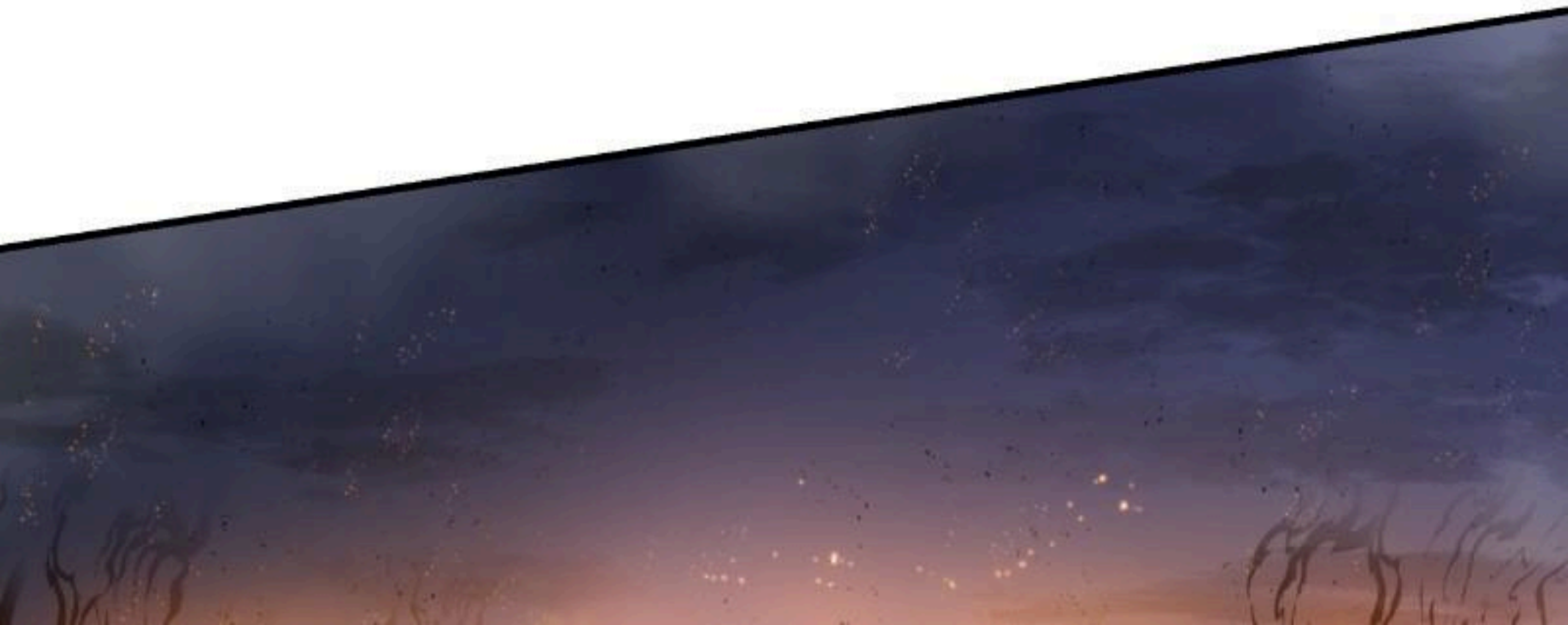
THIS EPISODE CONTAINS DEPICTIONS OF VIOLENCE THAT MAY BE UPSETTING FOR SOME READERS.

DOK...!
...YOU ...KAY?


WOBBLE



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Art by Sleepy-C | Adapted by UMI | Original Story by Singshong

Episode 10

Chapter 2

The Protagonist

Part 4

ES

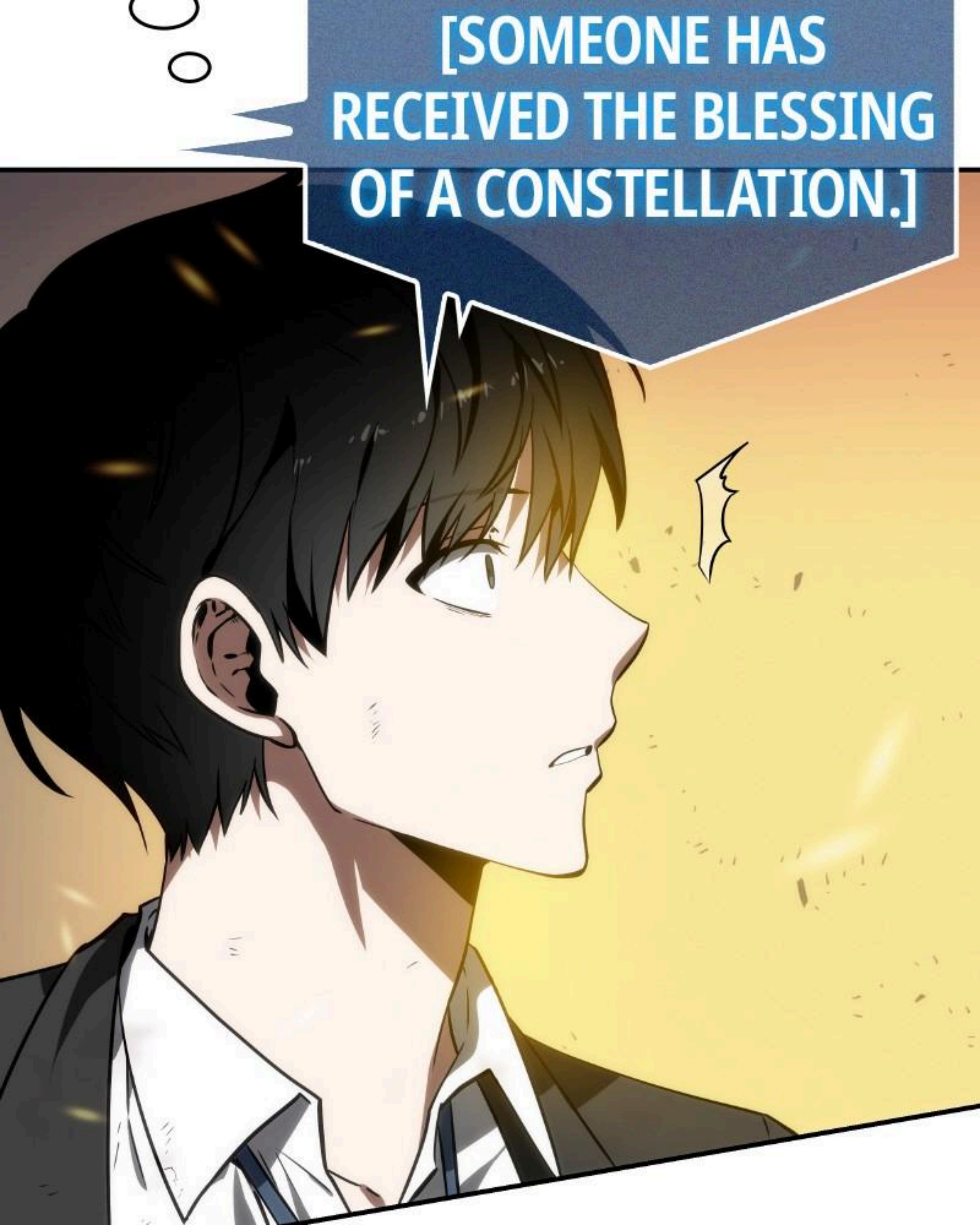
OOSH
DOKJA!!

THE BRIDGE HAS COLLAPSED.
I'D KNOWN SOMETHING LIKE THIS MIGHT HAPPEN...

...BUT
I HADN'T EXPECTED
MYEONGOH AND
SANGA TO
SURVIVE.

GILYEONG AND HYEONSEONG MADE IT TO SAFETY IN ONE PIECE.

NOW WHAT...?

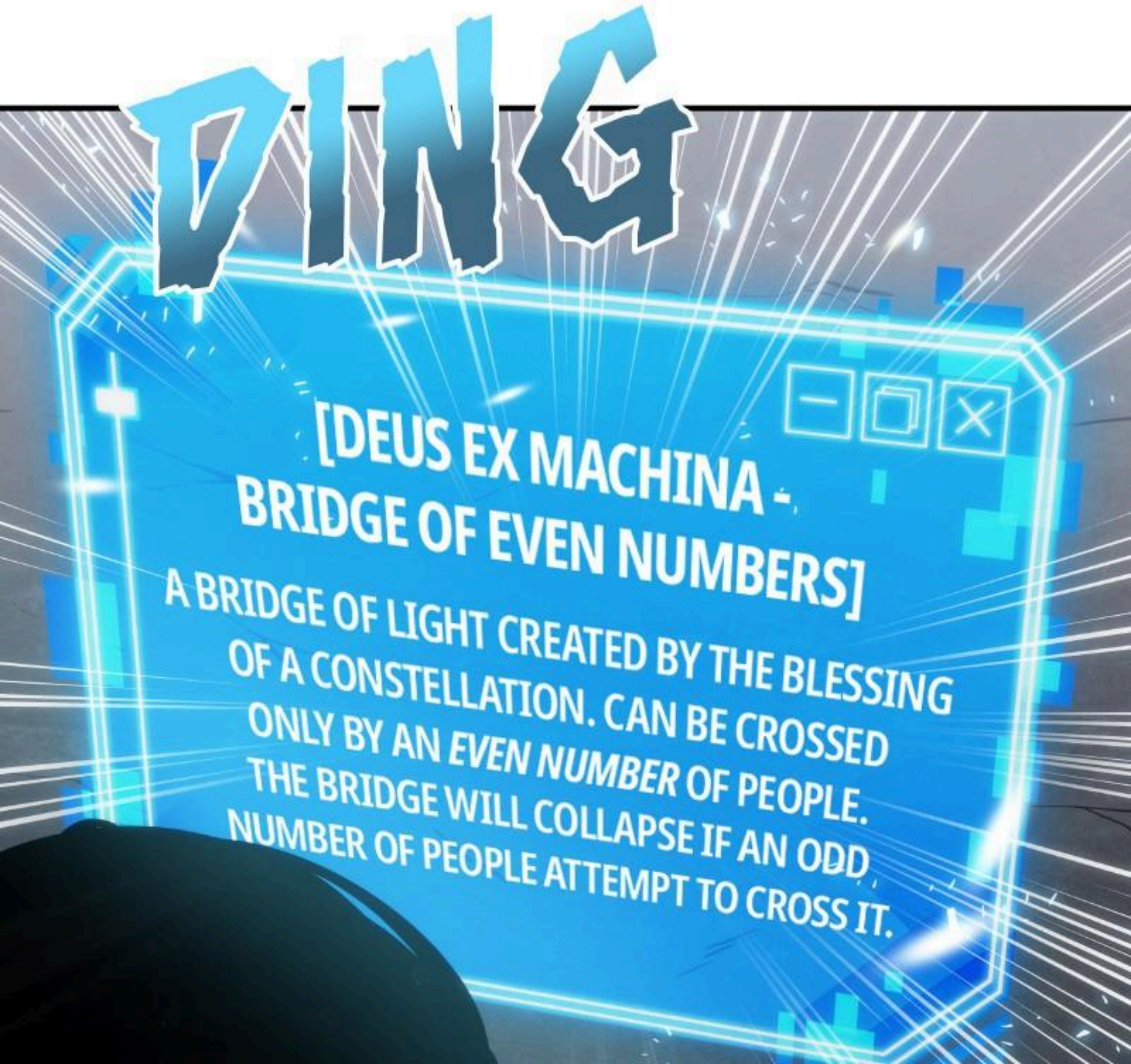

[SOMEONE HAS RECEIVED THE BLESSING OF A CONSTELLATION.]

F
L
A

ASH

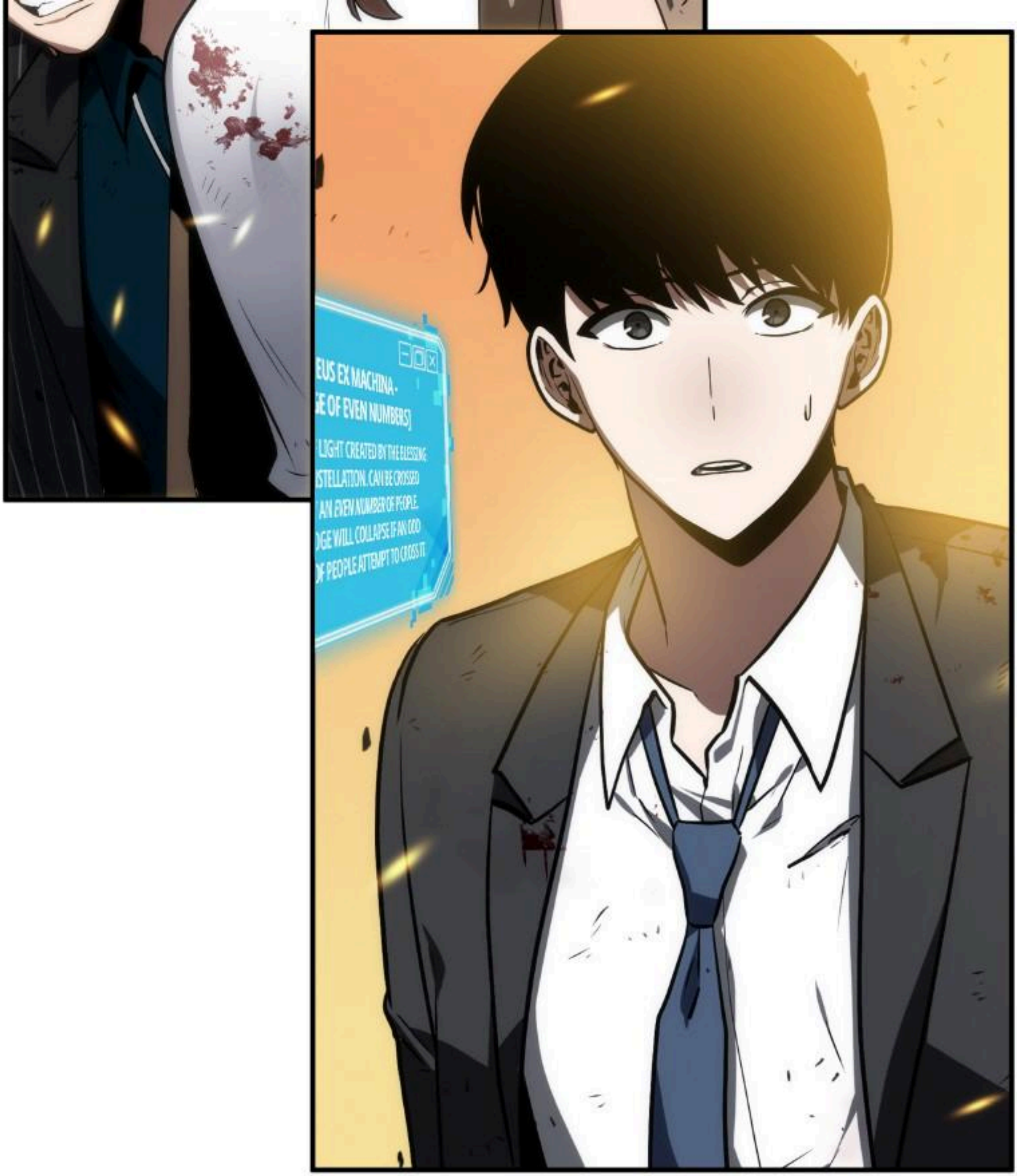
[THE CONSTELLATION'S BLESSING HAS ACTIVATED *DEUS EX MACHINA* IN THIS SCENARIO.]

CRACKLE


DING
[DEUS EX MACHINA - BRIDGE OF EVEN NUMBERS]
A BRIDGE OF LIGHT CREATED BY THE BLESSING OF A CONSTELLATION. CAN BE CROSSED ONLY BY AN EVEN NUMBER OF PEOPLE. THE BRIDGE WILL COLLAPSE IF AN ODD NUMBER OF PEOPLE ATTEMPT TO CROSS IT.

DEUS EX MACHINA?

DOKJA,
IN MY HEAD...
THIS THING... UH,
SUDDENLY...

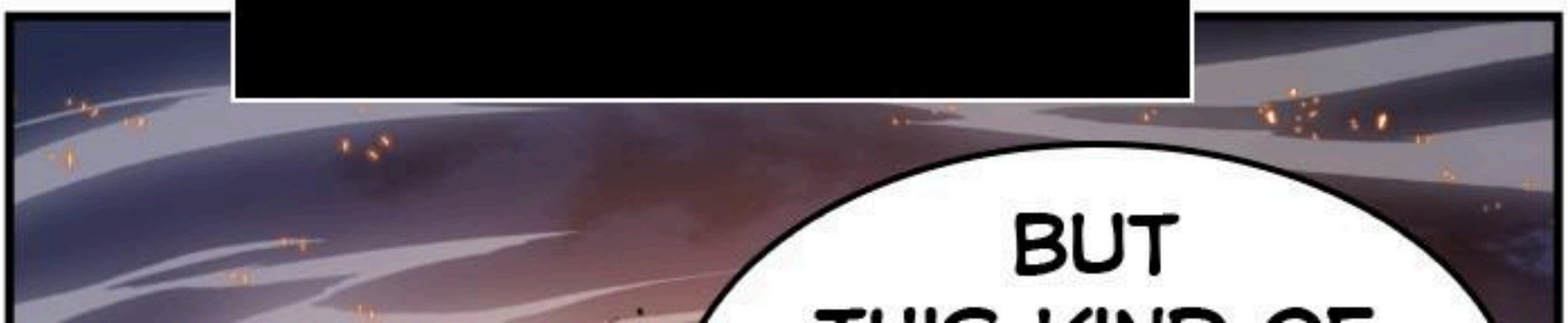

EUS EX MACHINA -
GE OF EVEN NUMBERS]
LIGHT CREATED BY THE BLESSING
STELLATION, CAN BE CROSSED
AN EVEN NUMBER OF PEOPLE.
DGE WILL COLLAPSE IF ANY ODD
OF PEOPLE ATTEMPT TO CROSS IT

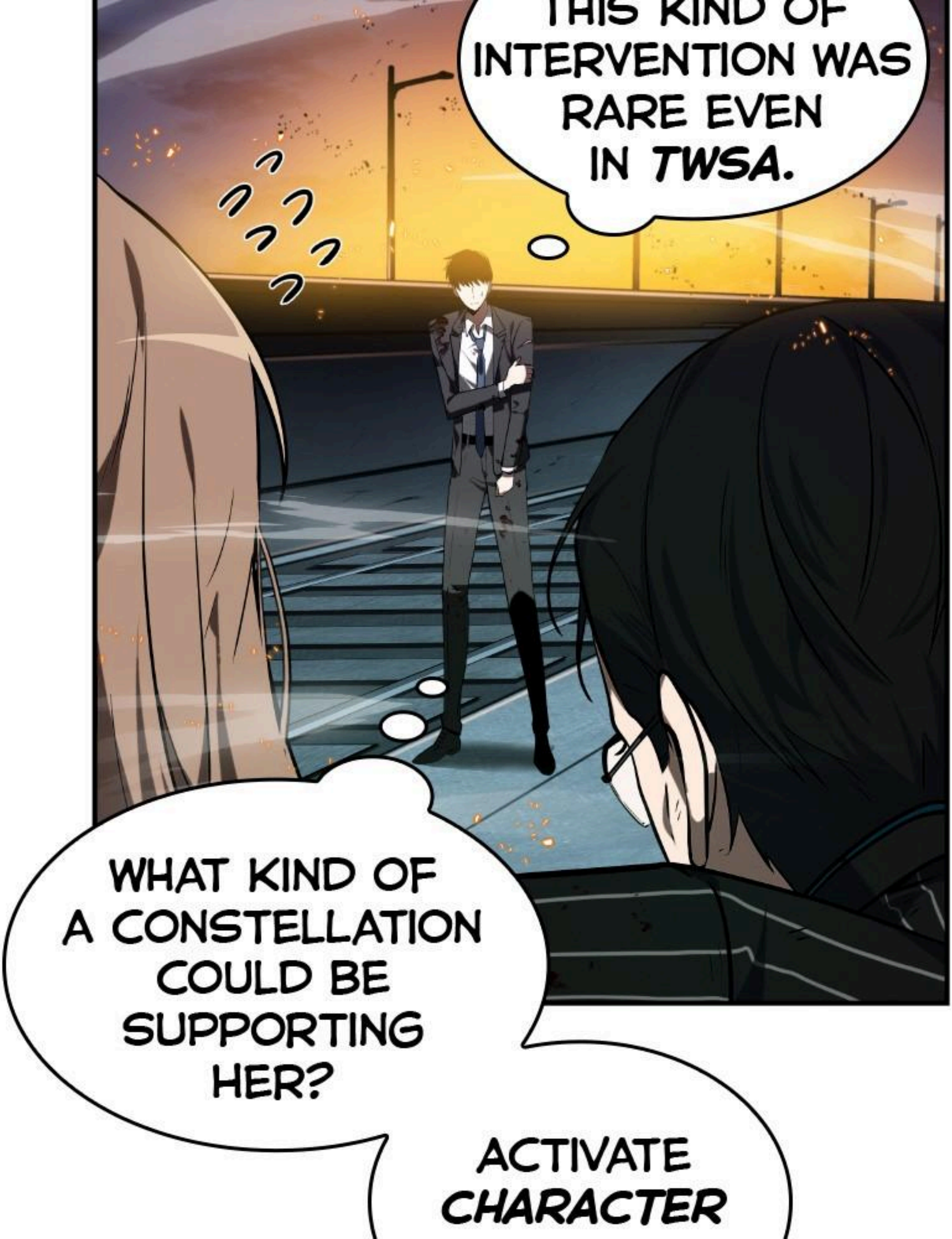
DEUS EX MACHINA

A POWER THAT LETS A CONSTELLATION DIRECTLY INTERVENE IN THE SCENARIO AT A GREAT COST.

DID SANGA'S SUPPORTING CONSTELLATION...

INTERVENE IN ORDER TO SAVE HER?



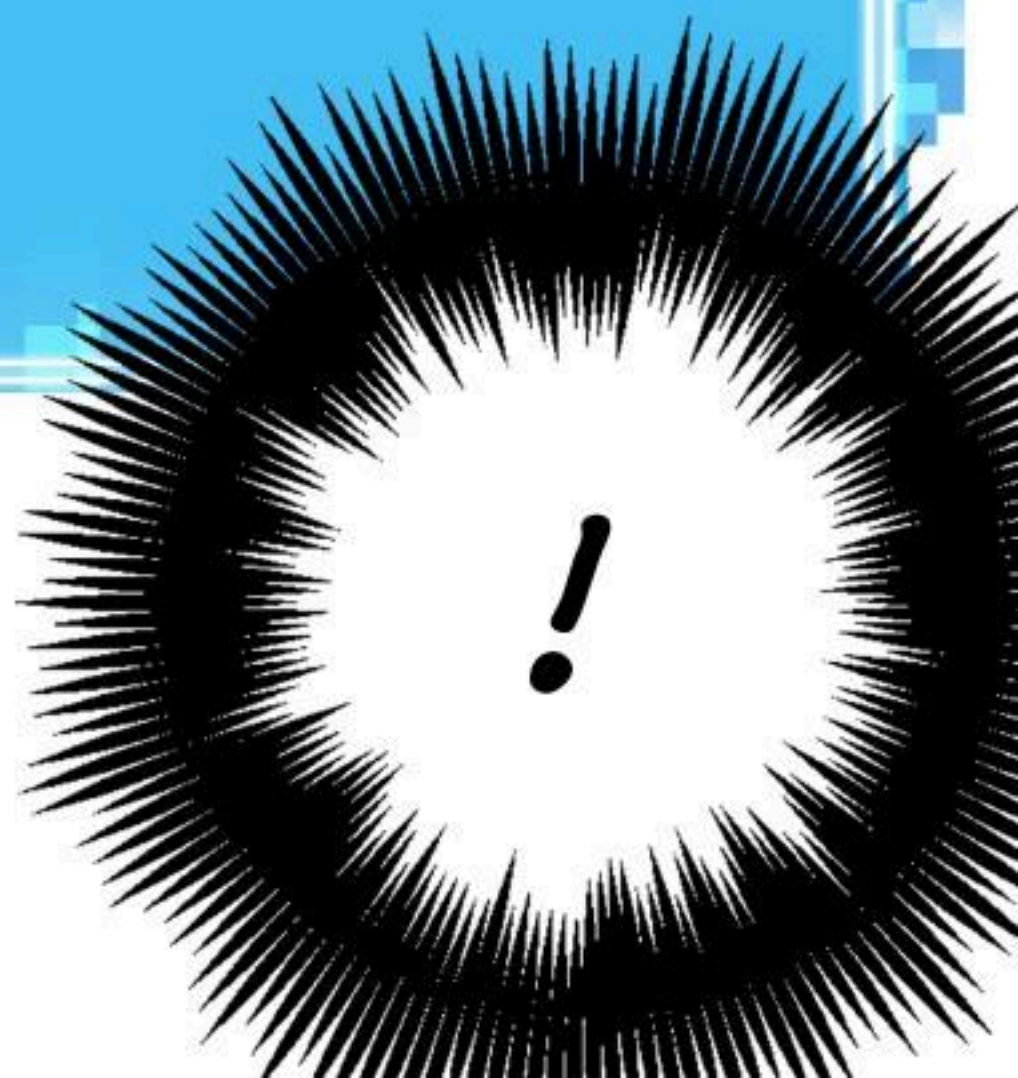

THIS KIND OF INTERVENTION WAS RARE EVEN IN *TWSA*.
WHAT KIND OF A CONSTELLATION COULD BE SUPPORTING HER?
ACTIVATE *CHARACTER*

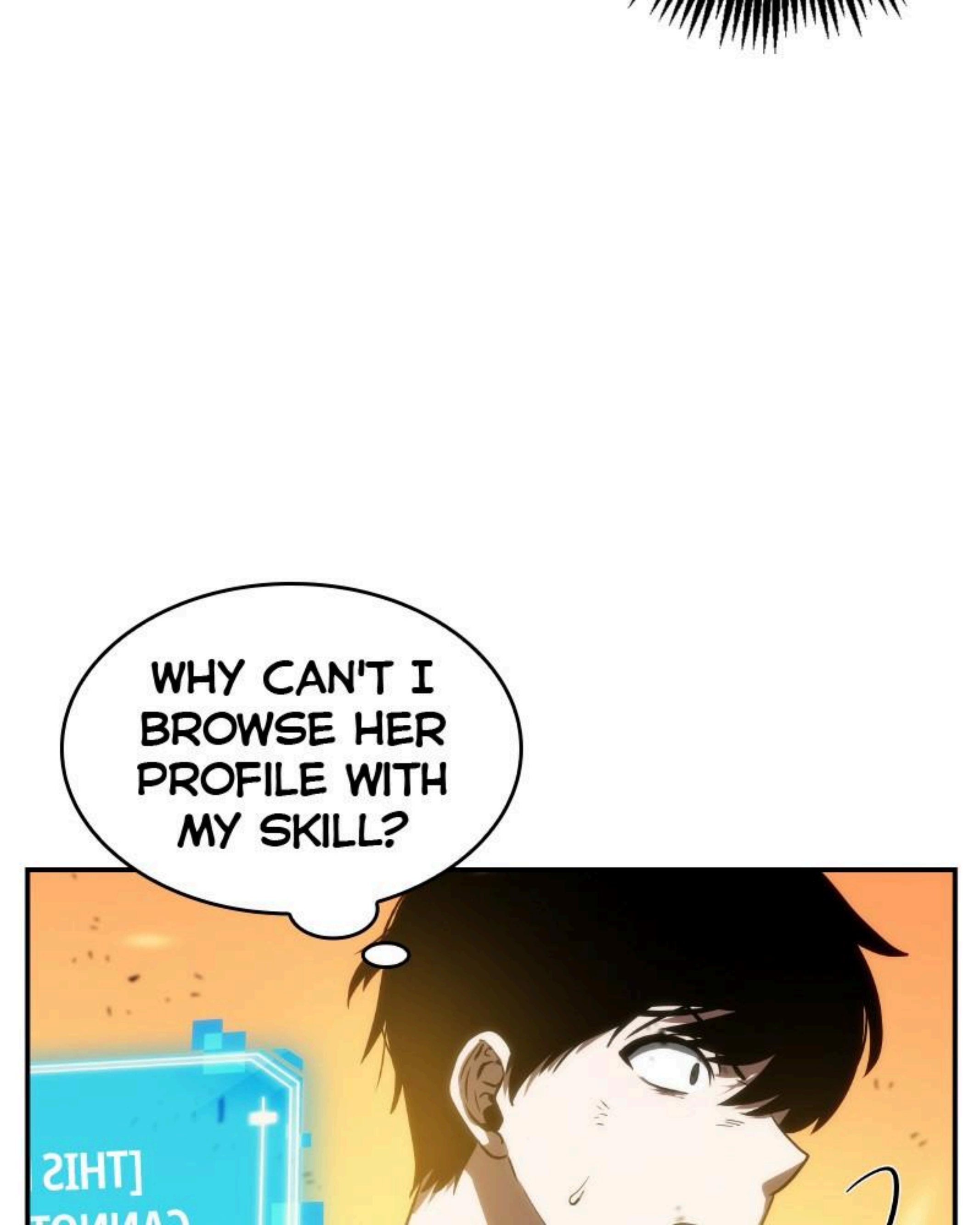
PROFILE.

CHARACTER PROFILE.]

DING

[THIS CHARACTER DOES NOT HAVE A REGISTERED *CHARACTER PROFILE*.]




WHY CAN'T I BROWSE HER PROFILE WITH MY SKILL?

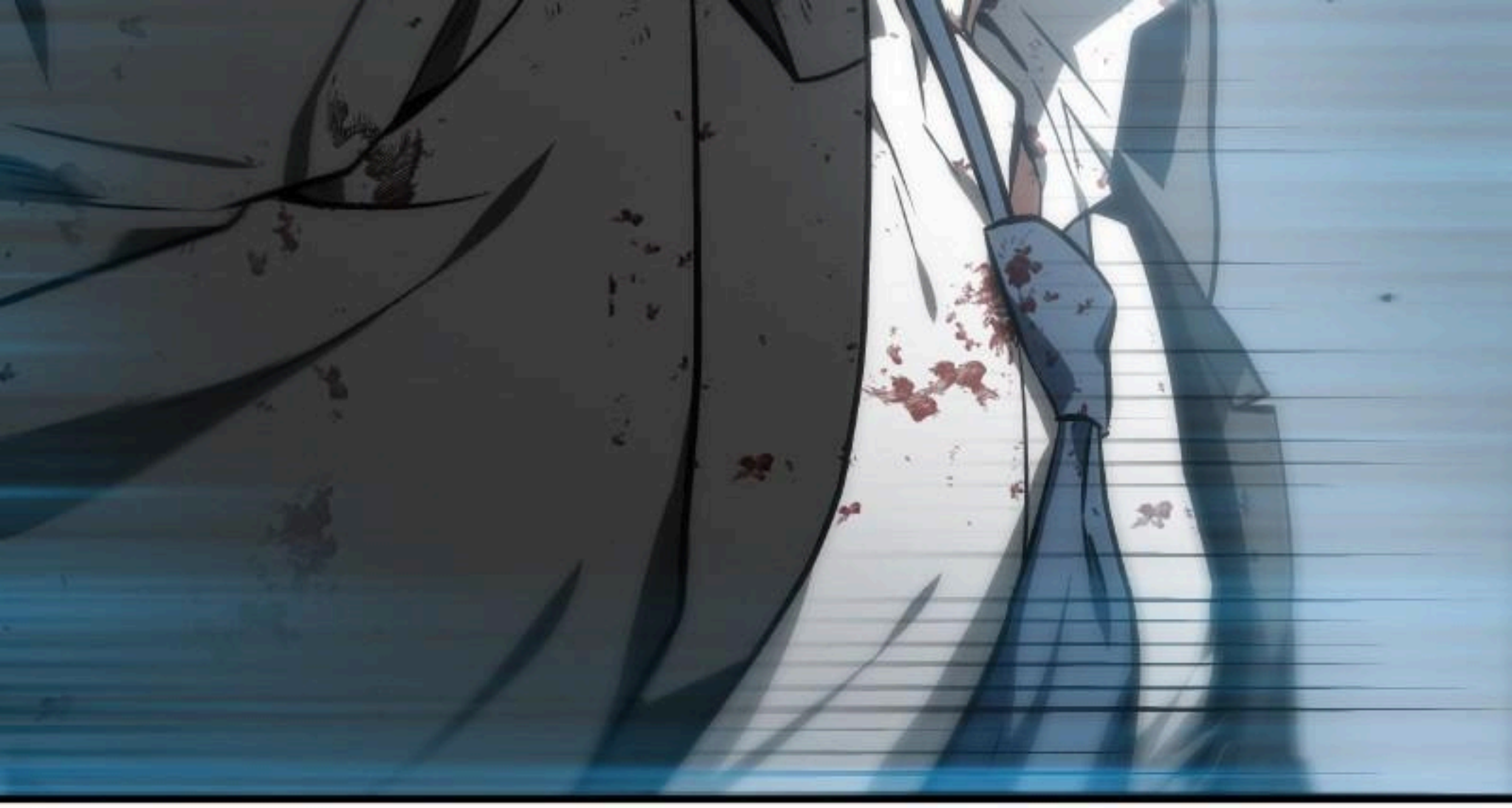
DOES SHE HAVE A SPECIAL CONSTELLATION SUPPORTING HER?

OR MAYBE SHE HAS THE MENTAL BARRIER SKILL?

BUT THERE'S NO WAY SHE COULD ALREADY HAVE THAT SKILL.

DOKJA!

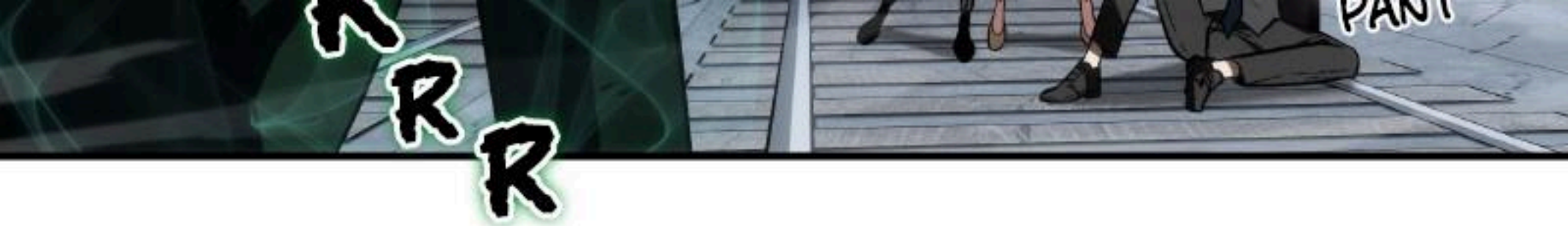
BEHIND YOU...!



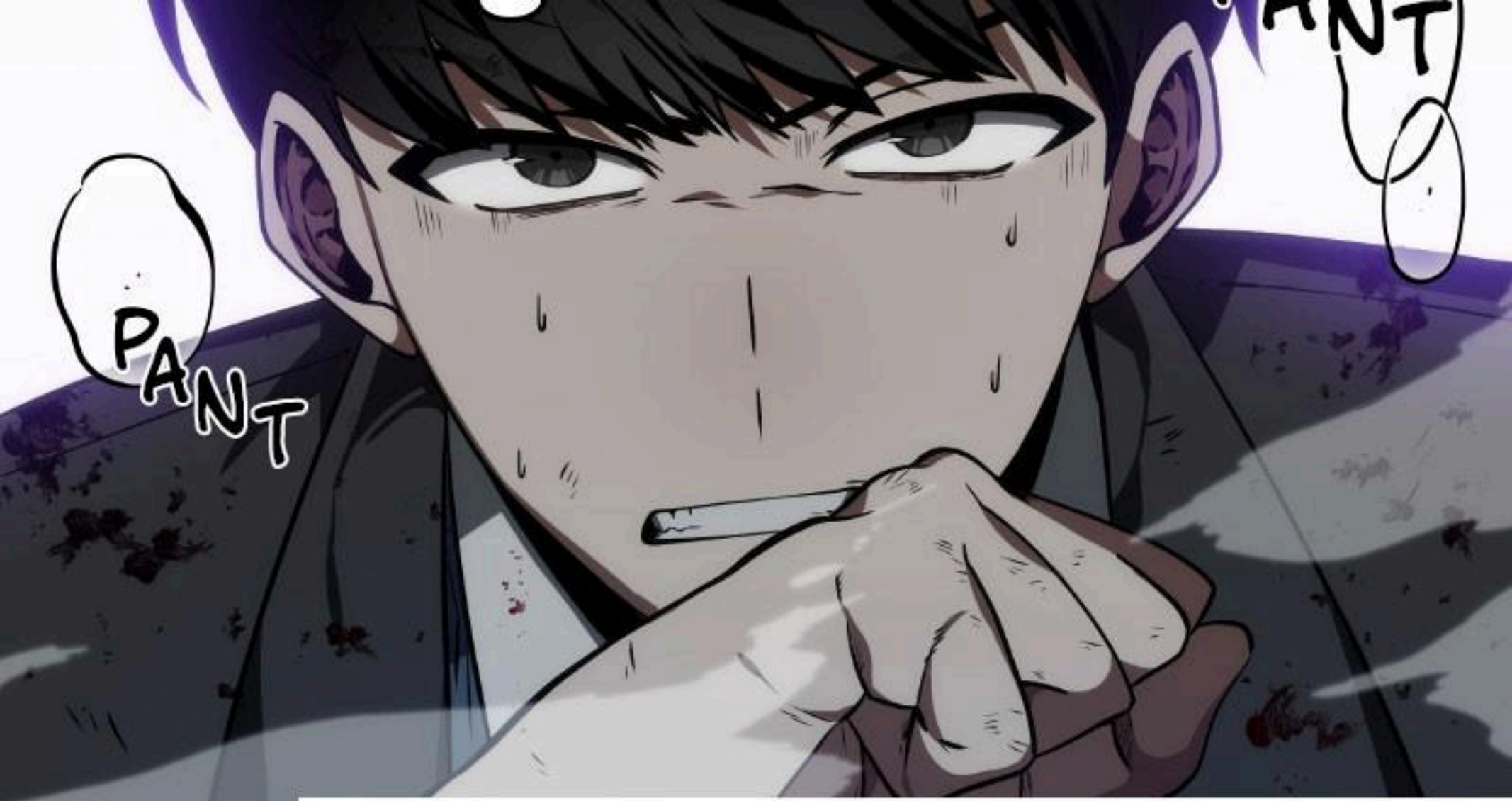
SLAM

CRASH

GRRR
PANT
PANT


R
R
R
PANT

I GUESS THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO BE LOST IN THOUGHT.
PA



TIER 9 HUMANOID
DEMON

A MUTANT SPECIES INFECTED BY THE BLACK ETHER

ONCE NORMAL HUMANS, HUMANOID DEMONS ARE NO DIFFERENT FROM ZOMBIES,

BUT THEY CAN BE QUITE DANGEROUS IF THEIR HOST HAPPENS TO BE SOMEONE WHO WAS POWERFUL.

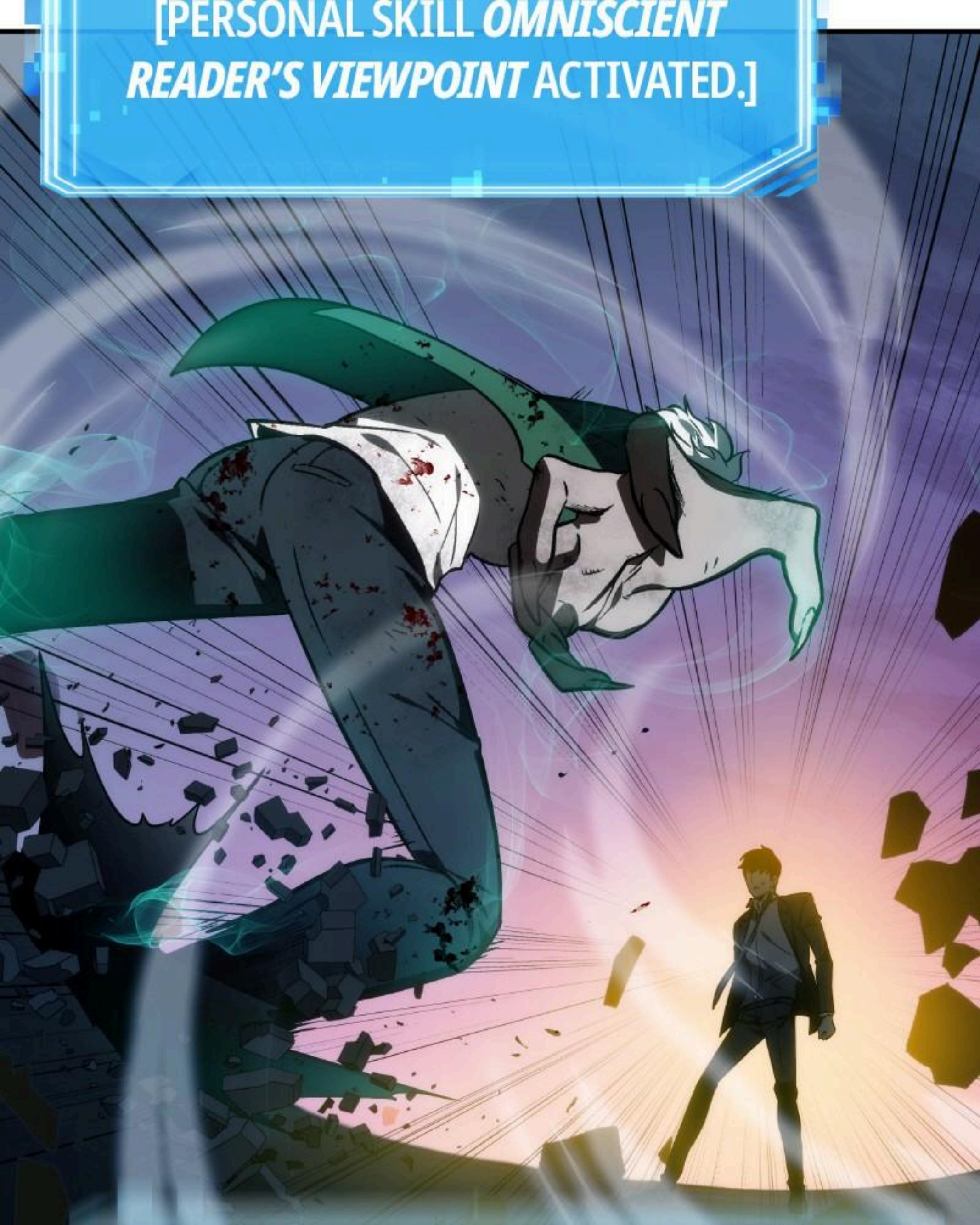
AND OF ALL PEOPLE...

NAMWOON KIM

GRRRR

R
NAMWOON KIM

CRRRRR
...IT JUST HAD TO BE HIM.


[PERSONAL SKILL OMNISCIENT READER'S VIEWPOINT ACTIVATED.]

[THIS CHARACTER DOES NOT POSSESS A CONSCIOUSNESS. DEACTIVATED *OMNISCIENT READER'S VIEWPOINT*.]

WHOOOS

H
ALL WE CAN DO NOW IS TO GET ACROSS THE BRIDGE OF EVEN NUMBERS SOMEHOW!
BUT THERE ARE THREE OF US RIGHT NOW. ME, SANGA, AND MYEONGOH.

ONE OF US HAS TO STAY BEHIND AND DIE.

[DEUS EX MACHINA - BRIDGE OF EVEN NUMBERS]

A BRIDGE OF LIGHT CREATED BY THE BLESSING OF A CONSTELLATION. CAN BE CROSSED ONLY BY AN *EVEN NUMBER* OF PEOPLE. THE BRIDGE WILL COLLAPSE IF AN ODD NUMBER OF PEOPLE ATTEMPT TO CROSS IT.

SANGA, GET--

LET GO OF ME! LET GO!

DOKJA!

DOKJA!!

DOKJA!!

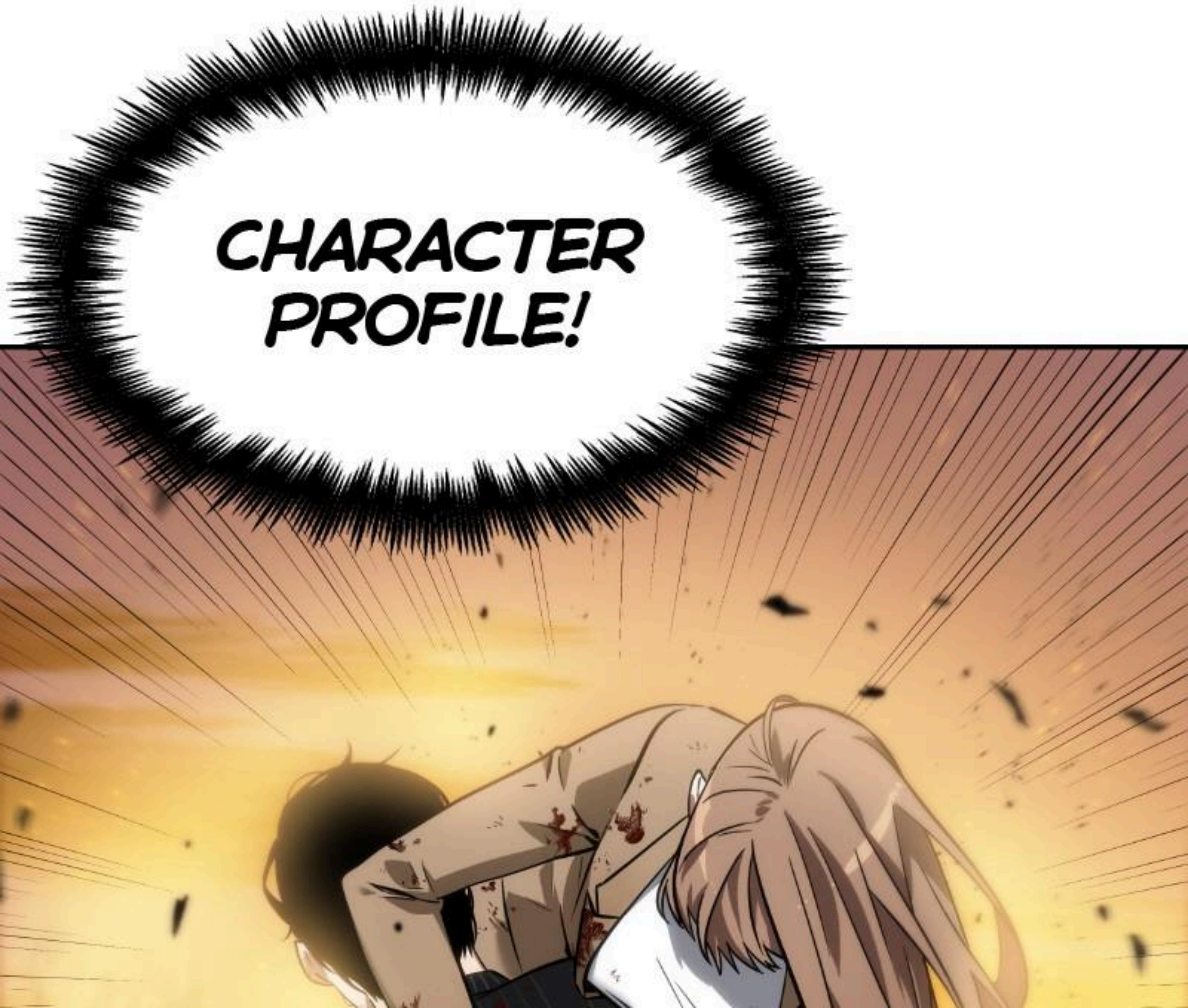
WHOOSH
DRAG
DRAG
DRAG

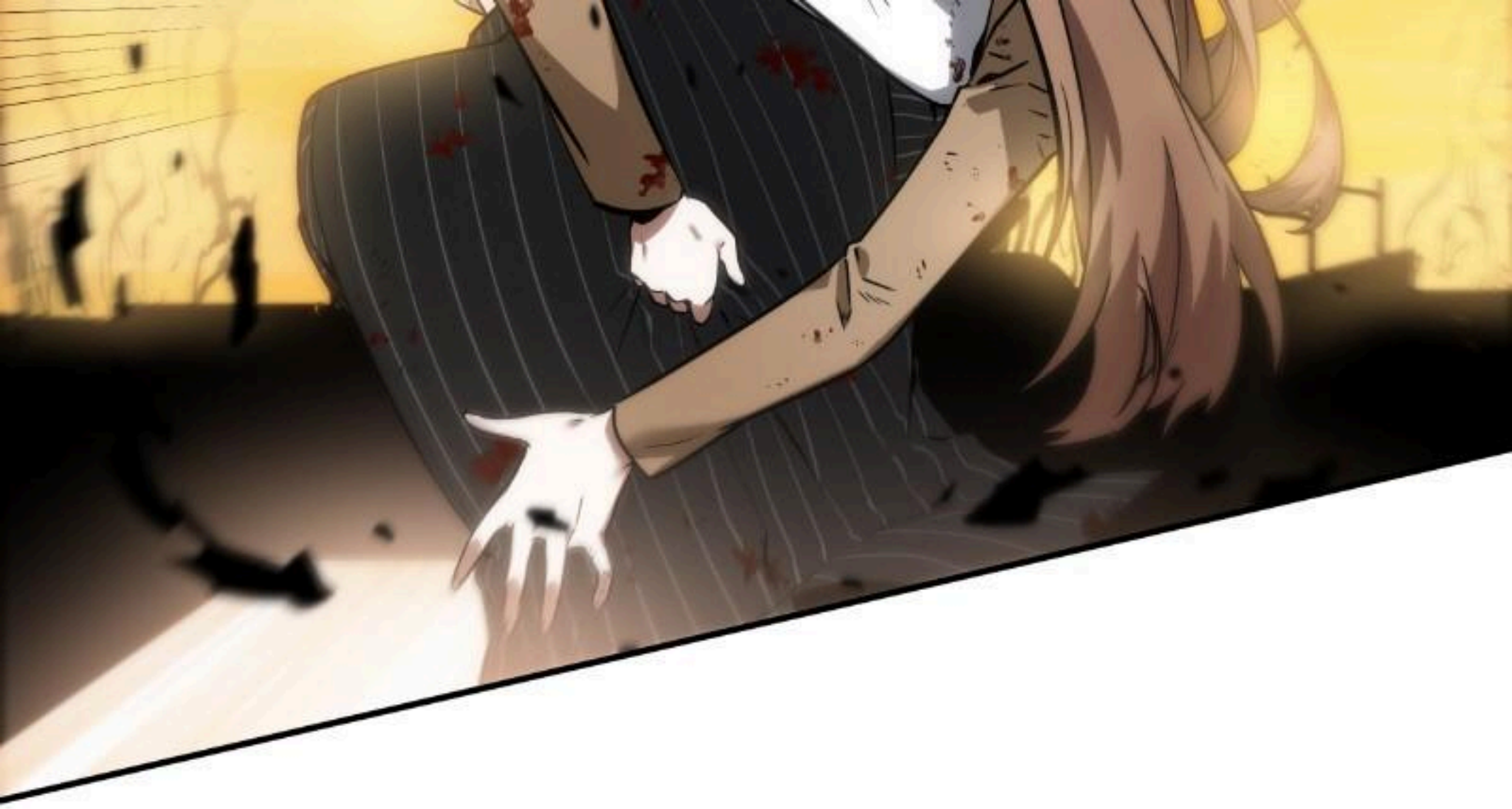
HE'S LEAVING ME BEHIND?
MYEONGOH, THAT BASTARD!

[THE CONSTELLATION,
THE *SECRETIVE PLOTTER*,
IS IMPRESSED BY YOUR
FOOLISHNESS.]

[THE CONSTELLATION,
THE *DEMONIC JUDGE OF FIRE*,
IS TOUCHED BY YOUR SELFLESSNESS.]

[YOU HAVE BEEN GIFTED 100 COINS.]


CHARACTER PROFILE!



DING

[THIS PERSON'S PROFILE CANNOT BE BROWSED USING *CHARACTER PROFILE*.]

!

IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, THAT *STIGMA*, [ONE-LEGGED SWIFT FOOT],

BELONGS TO THE CONSTELLATION *LIMPING TRICKSTER.*

THAT CONSTELLATION DOES NOT ENDOW ITS INCARNATIONS WITH THE MENTAL BARRIER STIGMA.

STIGMA

A SPECIAL POWER ENDOWED TO INCARNATIONS BY THEIR CONSTELLATIONS.

AND SINCE THERE'S NO WAY MYEONGOH COULD HAVE THAT KIND OF SKILL,

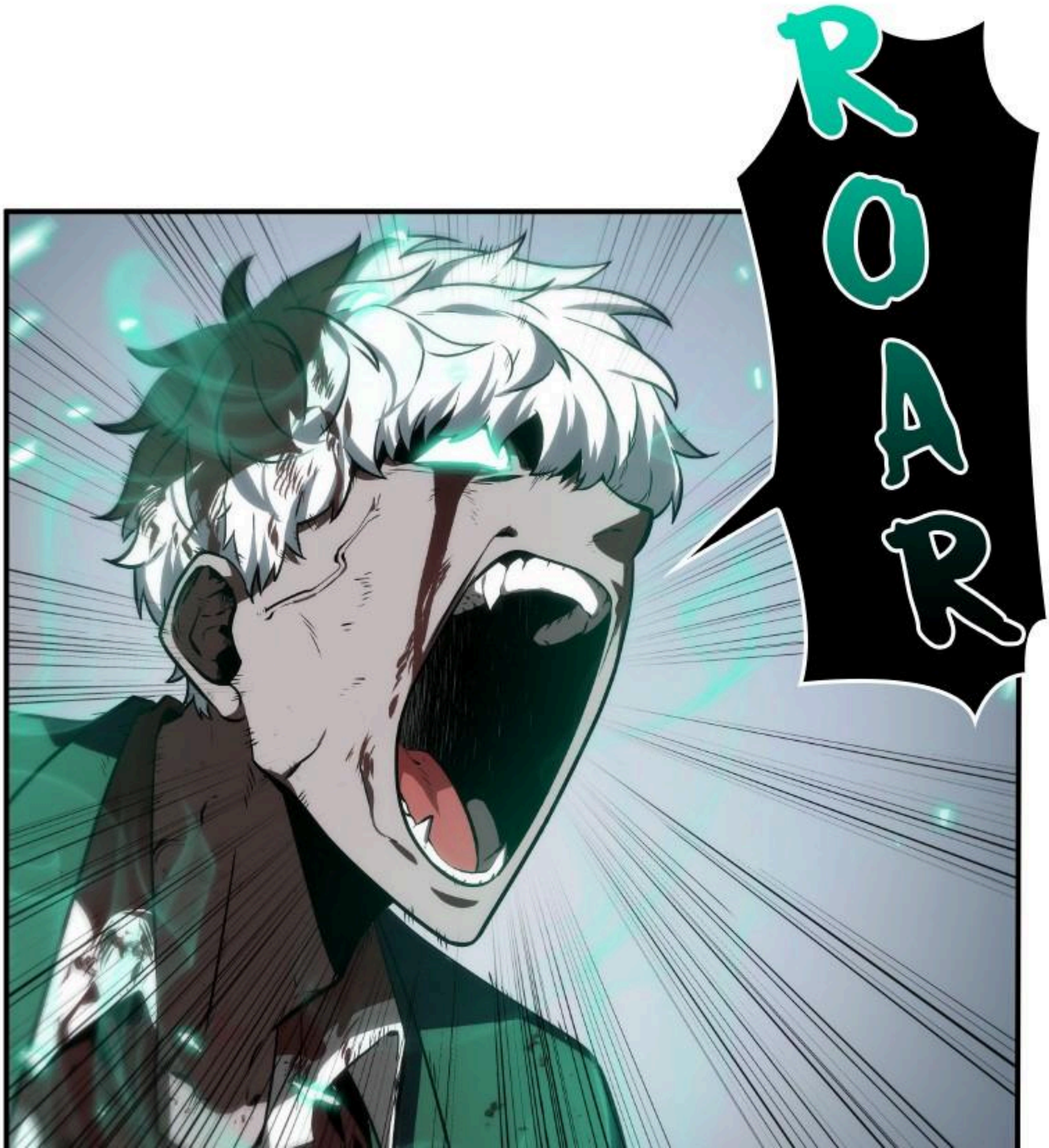
THE REASON MY SKILL DIDN'T WORK ON SANGA AND MYEONGOH WAS THAT...

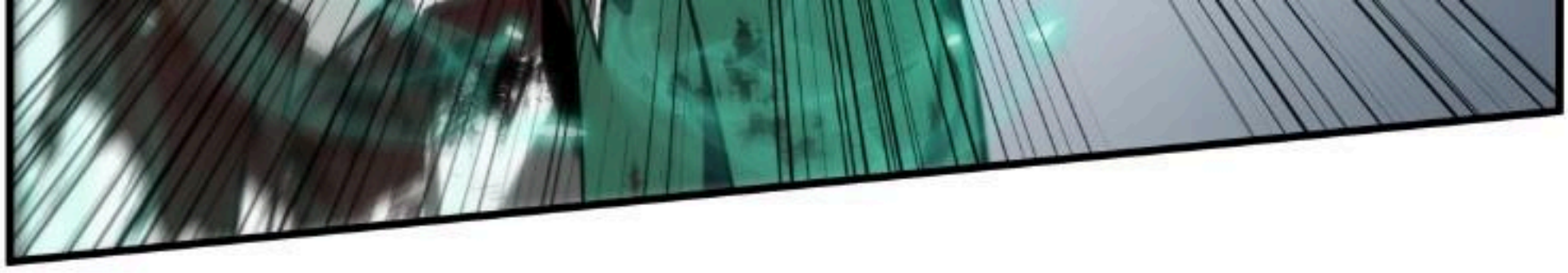
HOW STUPID OF ME.

...IT'S BECAUSE THEY'RE NOT CHARACTERS THAT APPEAR IN *TWSA*.

[THIS PERSON'S PROFILE CANNOT BE BROWSED USING CHARACTER PROFILE.]

IT'S OBVIOUS WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT IT...


ROAR



GRRRRRR

DAMN IT!
GRRRRR
CLICK

COME ON. THINK!
GRRRRRR
WHACK
I CAN'T CROSS THE BRIDGE

BRIDGE ALONE.

WHAT IF I GRAB A DEMON TO CROSS THE BRIDGE WITH ME?

PANT

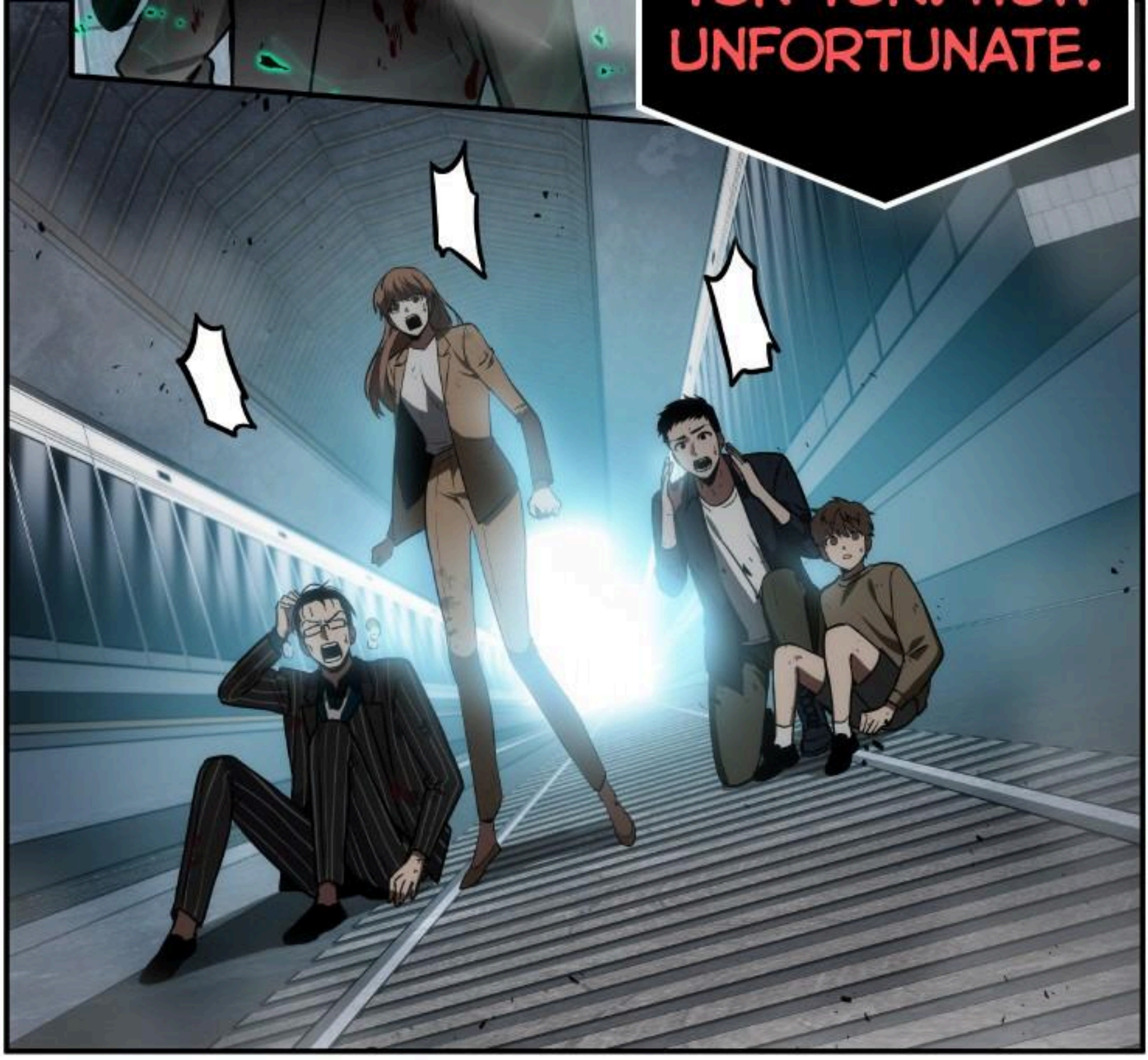
PANT

NO. IT'S PROBABLY NOT GOING TO WORK.
GRRRRRR

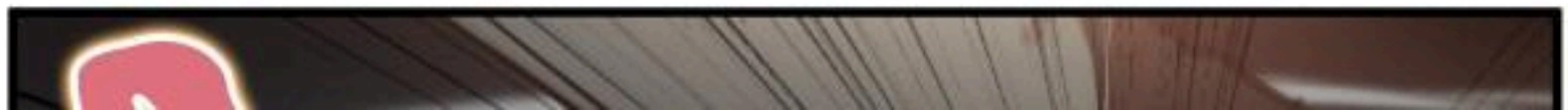
ONLY FIFTEEN MINUTES LEFT UNTIL THE SCENARIO ENDS.
HAHA
00:15:23

WOW.
YOU'RE DOING
PRETTY WELL.
OKAY! IS THERE
ANY CONSTELLATION
WHO WISHES TO
BLESS THIS POOR
INCARNATION?

OH MY.
NOBODY?
TSK TSK. HOW

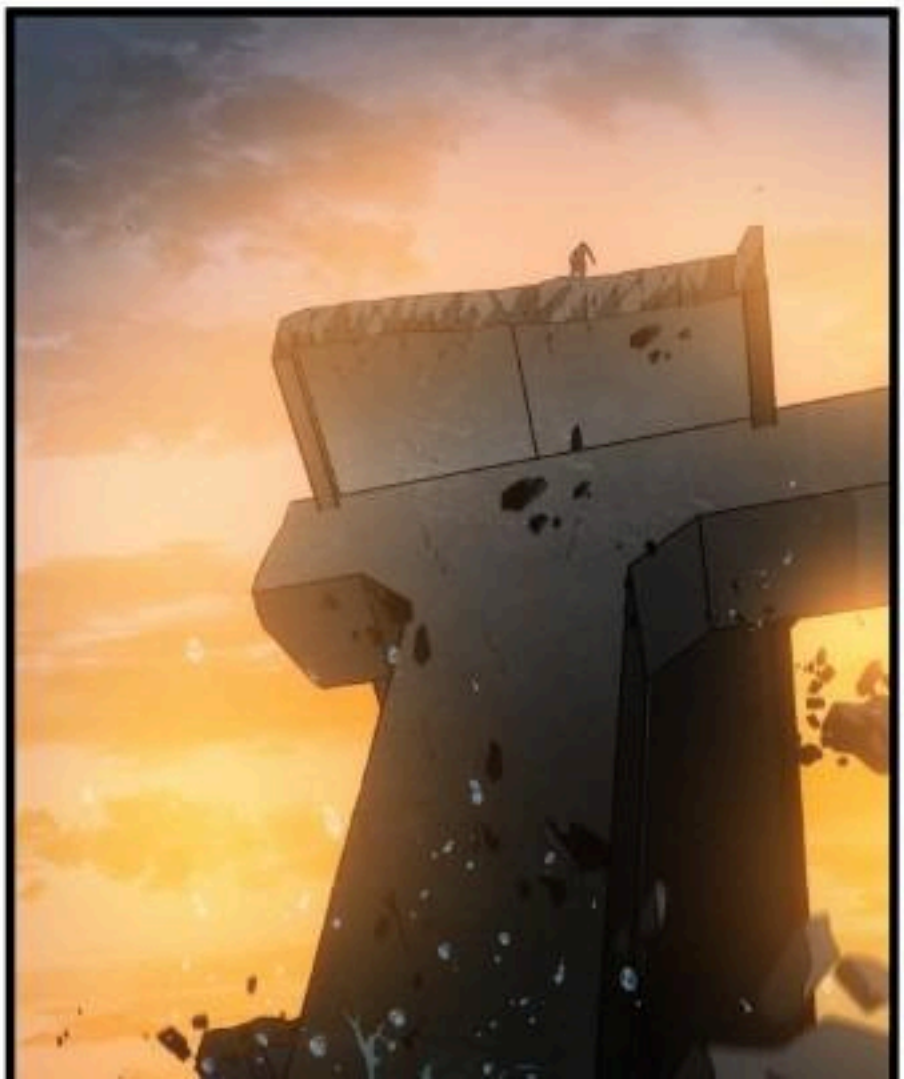

UNFORTUNATE.

MY BODY CAN'T HANDLE MUCH MORE OF THIS.



SKID

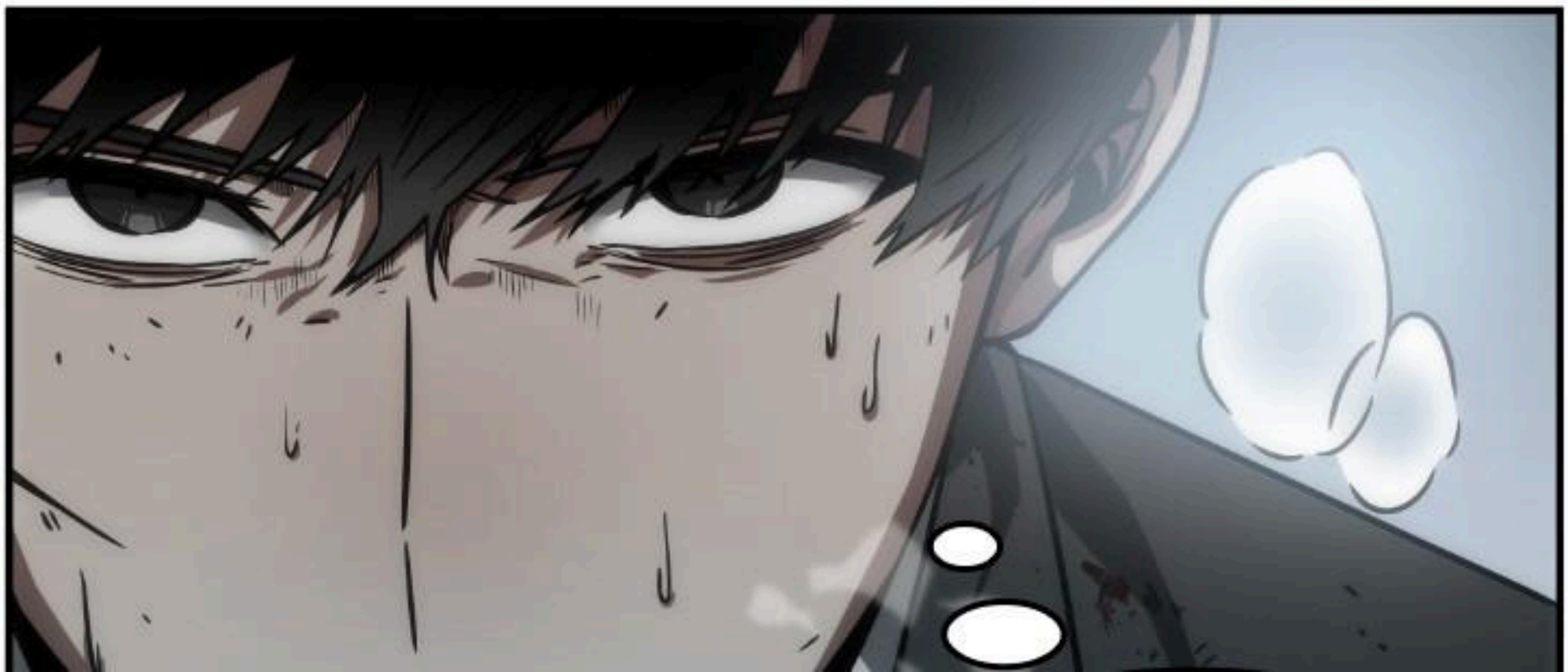
PANT
PANT
PANT



GRR

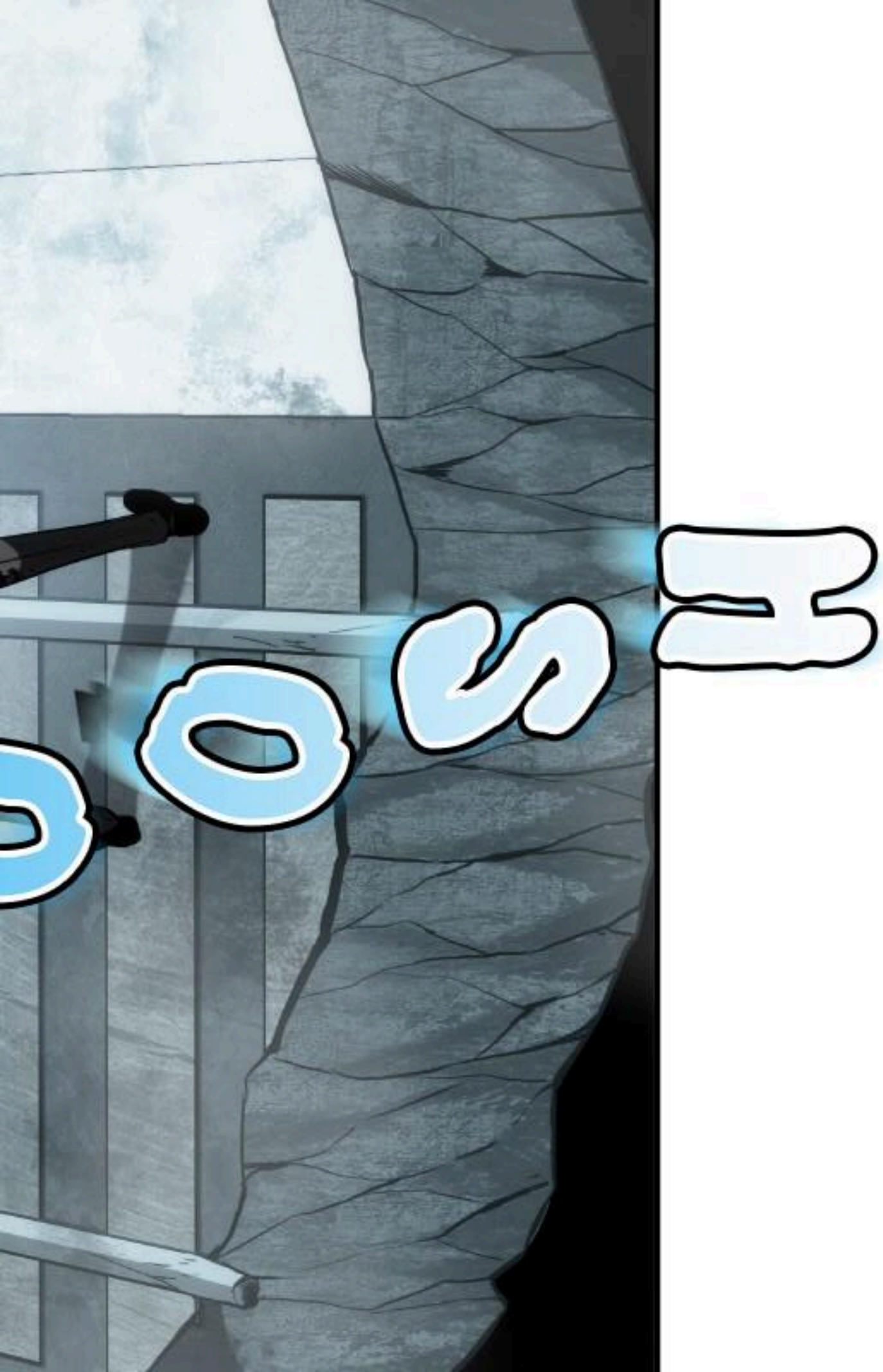
NAEWOON KIM

I MIGHT ACTUALLY DIE THIS TIME.



DAMN IT.
IF ONLY
I HAD JUST
ONE COMBAT
SKILL...

...IT WOULDN'T BE THIS HARD.
SWO

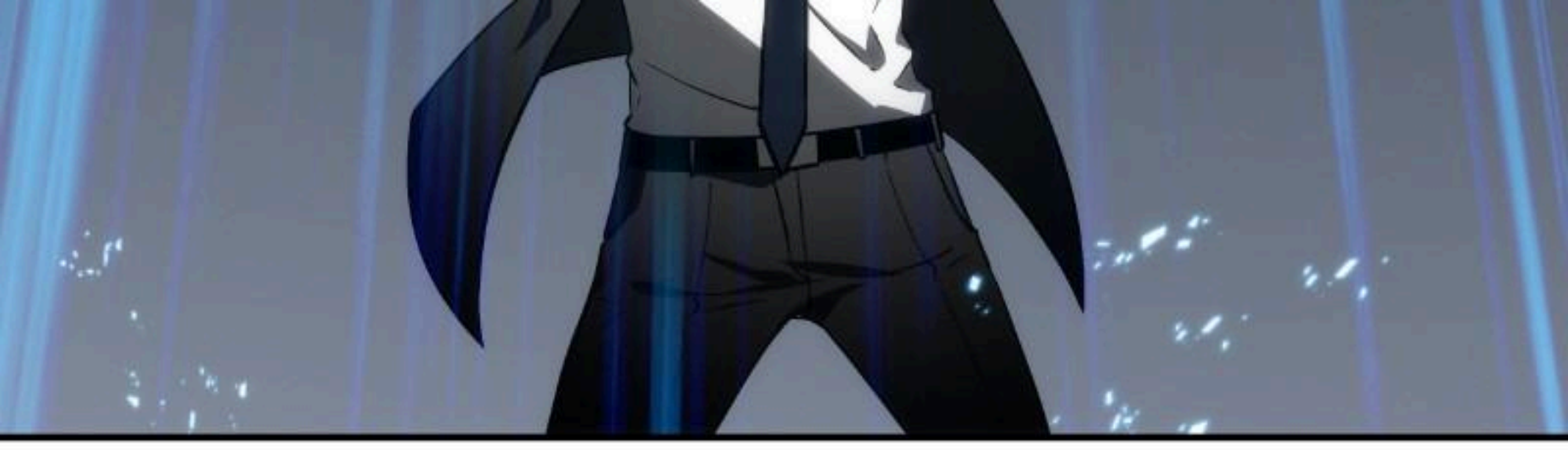

쿠웅!

DING
[PERSONAL SKILL
BOOKMARK ACTIVATED.]

HUH?

FLUTTER

BOOKMARK?



DING

[ACTIVATING CHARACTER BOOKMARKS.]

DING

DING

[AVAILABLE BOOKMARK SLOTS: 3]

[LOADING THE LIST

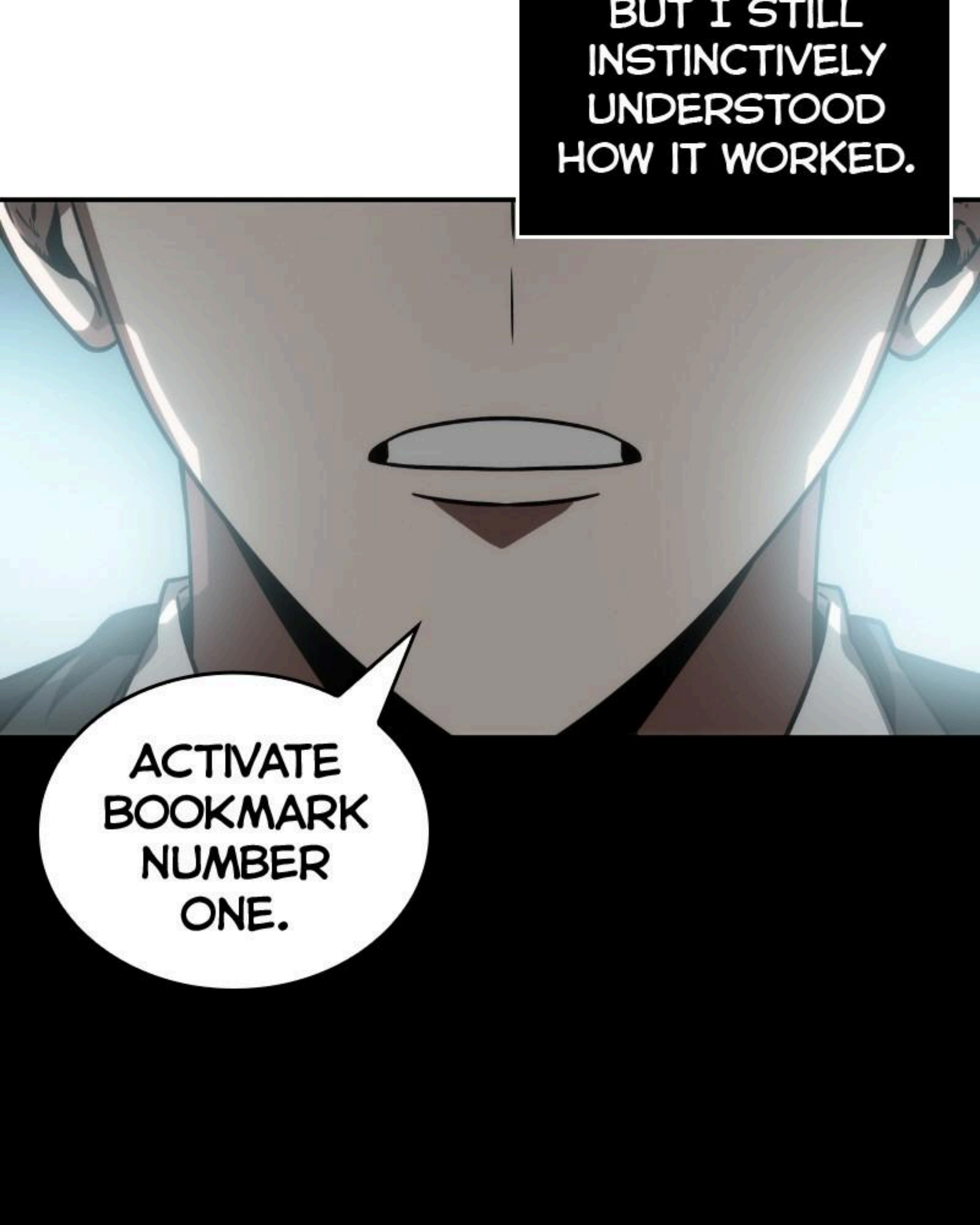
OF BOOKMARKS THAT
CAN BE ACTIVATED.]

DING
<LIST OF BOOKMARKED CHARACTERS>

1. DELUSIONAL DEMON NAMWOON KIM (UNDERSTANDING 25)
2. STEEL BLADE HYEONSEONG LEE (UNDERSTANDING 35)
3. EMPTY SLOT

I'VE READ OVER 3,000 EPISODES OF *TWSA* BUT I'VE NEVER READ ABOUT THIS SKILL ANYWHERE.

Namwoon Kim
ROAR!!!


BUT I STILL INSTINCTIVELY UNDERSTOOD HOW IT WORKED.
ACTIVATE BOOKMARK NUMBER ONE.

FLUTTER
HAHAHA! I'M OVERFLOWING

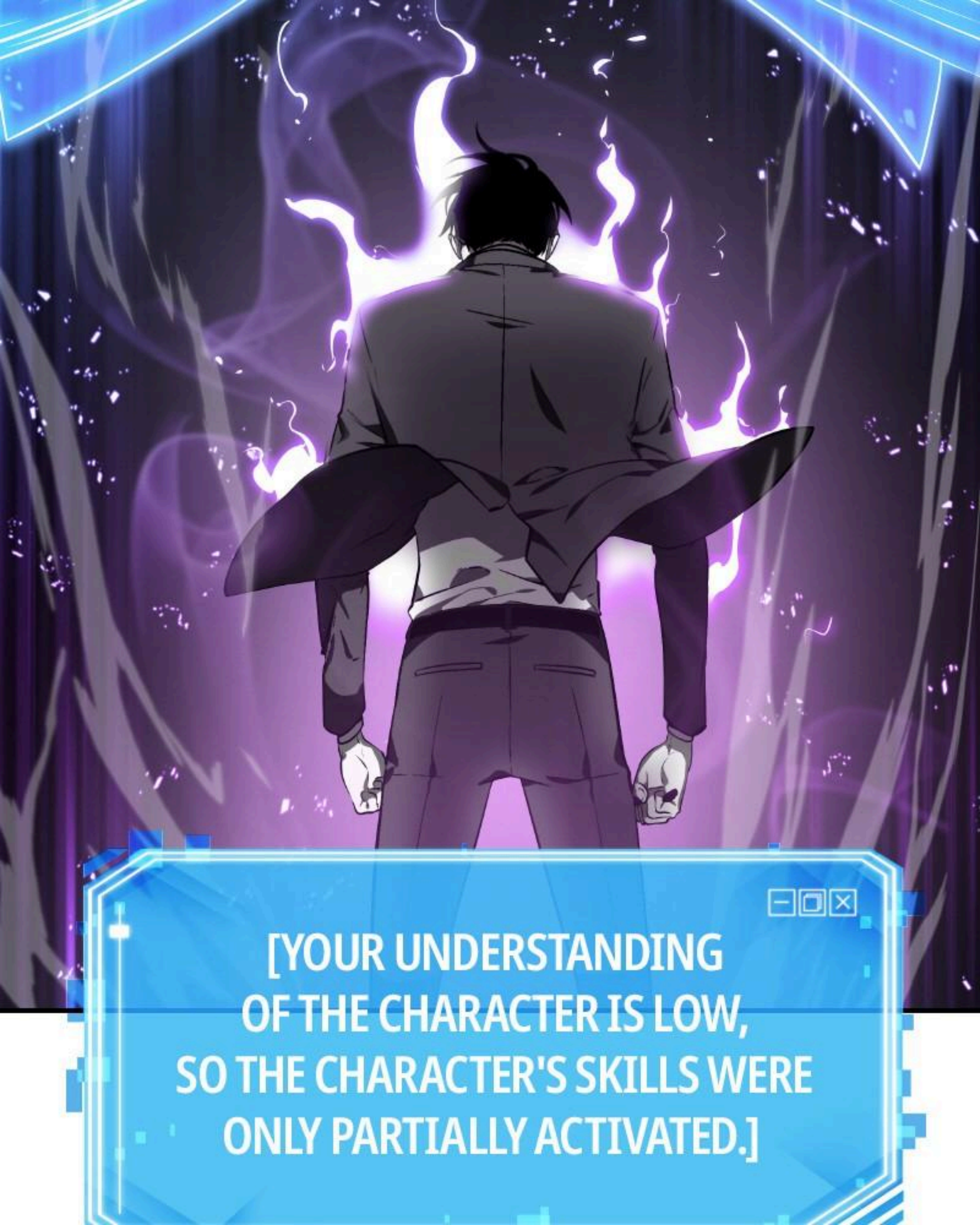
WITH POWER!
DIE! DIE! DIE!

THE NEW WORLD NEEDS NEW RULES.

[ACTIVATING BOOKMARK NUMBER ONE.]

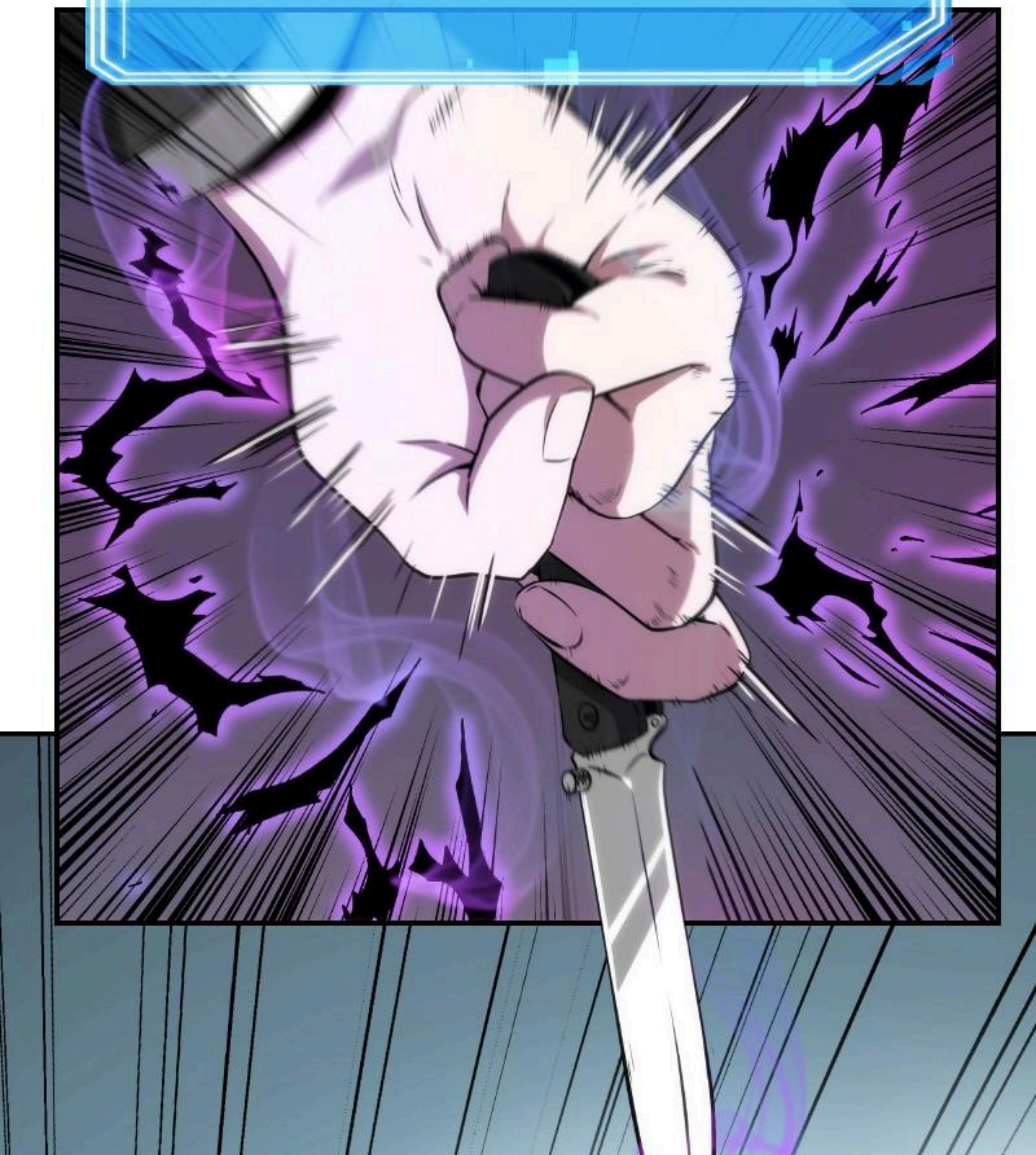
[THE ACTIVATION TIME HAS BEEN SHORTENED DUE TO THE LOW LEVEL OF THE BOOKMARK SKILL.]

[ACTIVATION TIME: 1 MINUTE]


[YOUR UNDERSTANDING
OF THE CHARACTER IS LOW,
SO THE CHARACTER'S SKILLS WERE
ONLY PARTIALLY ACTIVATED.]

[ACTIVATING *GRIMDARK*

[ACTIVATING GRIMDARK AWAKENING LV. 1.]



F
O

A
E
NAMWOON KIM

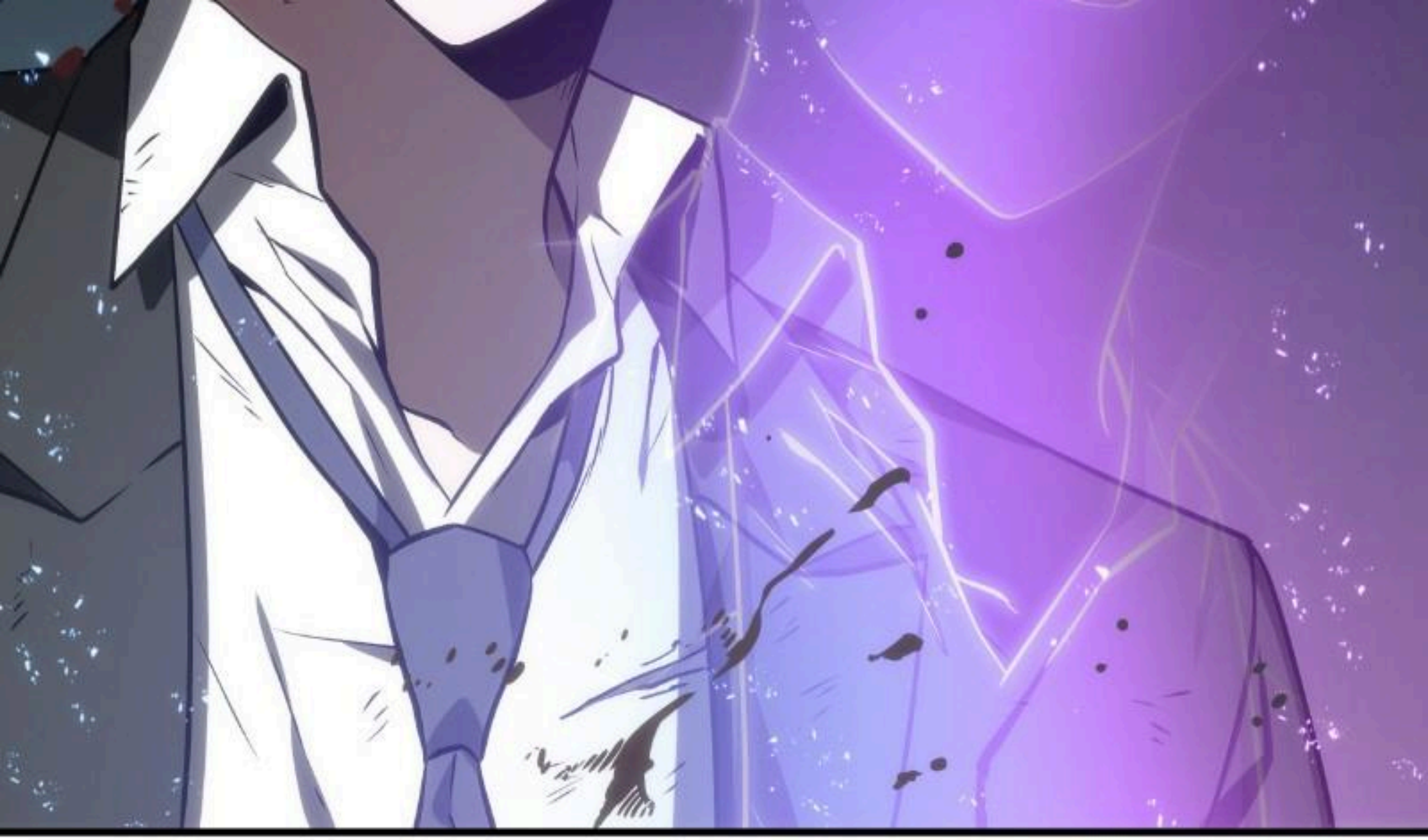
WHOOSH

SPLAT

ARGH...

I DON'T...
...WANT TO DIE...

FLOP

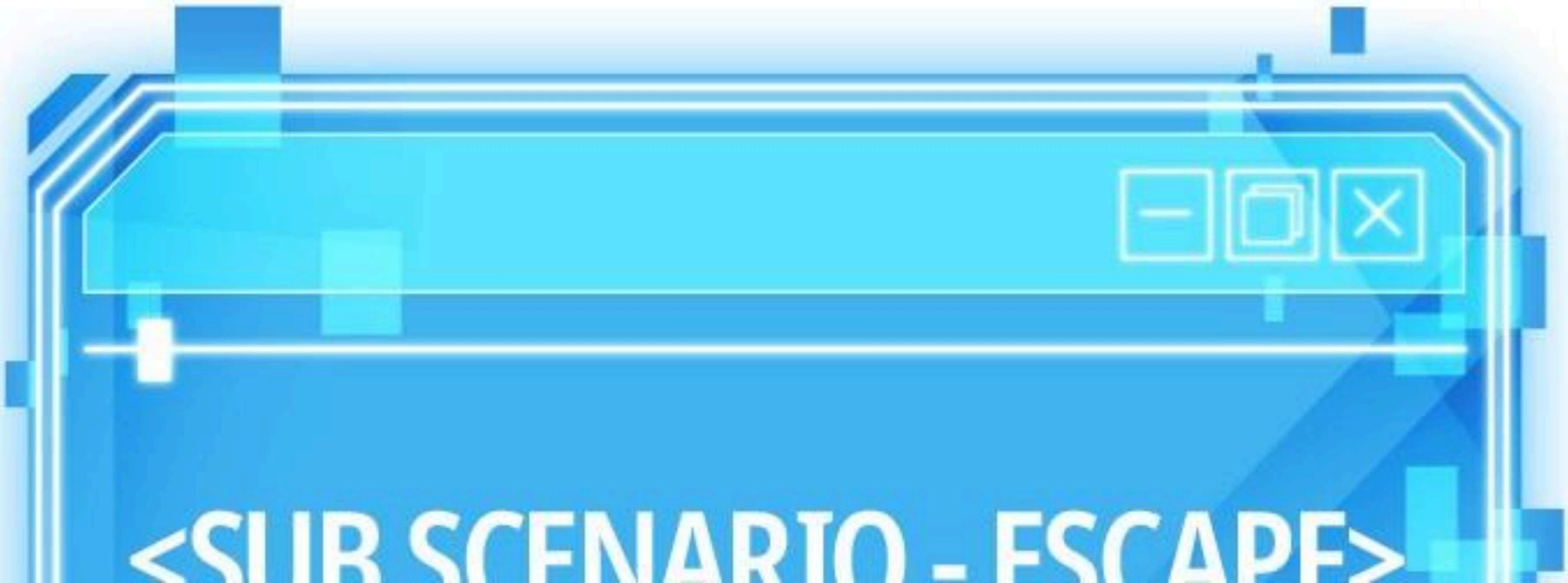


DING

[YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF
NAMWOON KIM HAS INCREASED.]

DING

[DEACTIVATED
BOOKMARK NUMBER ONE.]



<SUB SCENARIO - ESCAPE>

CATEGORY: SUB

DIFFICULTY: D

CLEAR CONDITIONS:
GET ACROSS THE COLLAPSED BRIDGE AND ENTER OKSU STATION.

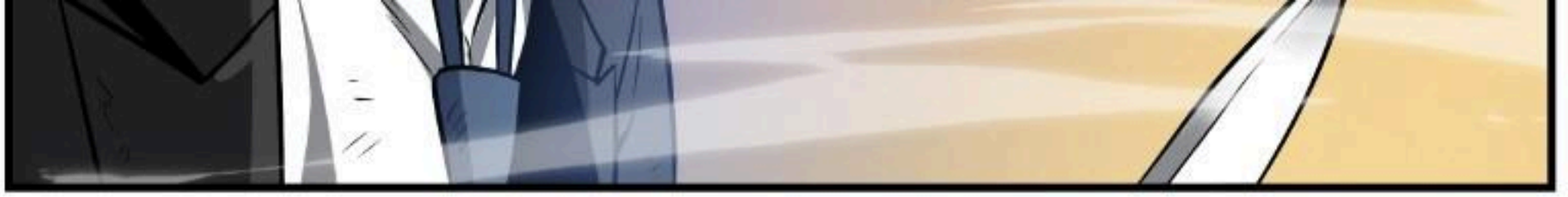
TIME LIMIT: 20 MINUTES

REWARD: 200 COINS

PENALTY FOR FAILURE: ???

TIME REMAINING:
10 MINUTES 11 SECONDS

PANT
PANT

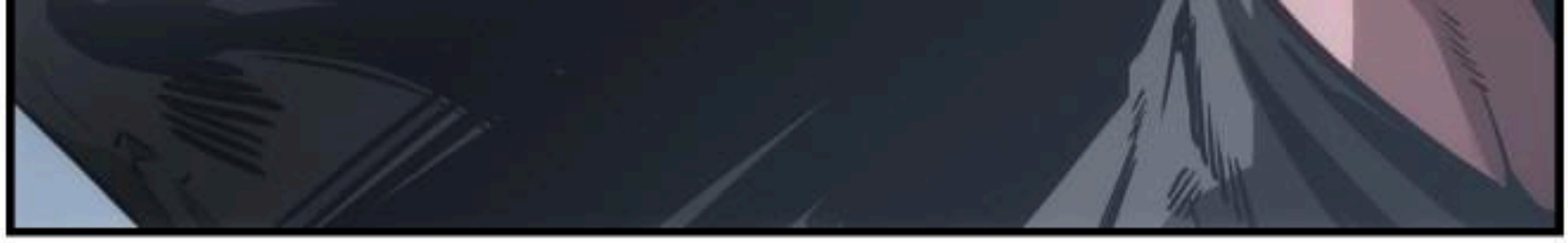


WOW, I'M SO EXHAUSTED.

SERIOUSLY...

HE'S LATE

HE'S LATE.
BUT HE SHOULD BE SHOWING UP ANY MOMENT NOW.



SLAM
CRACK

CRA

SNAP
CLICK
GROAN?
GROAN?!
CRUSH
CRACK

FLOP

THERE HE IS.

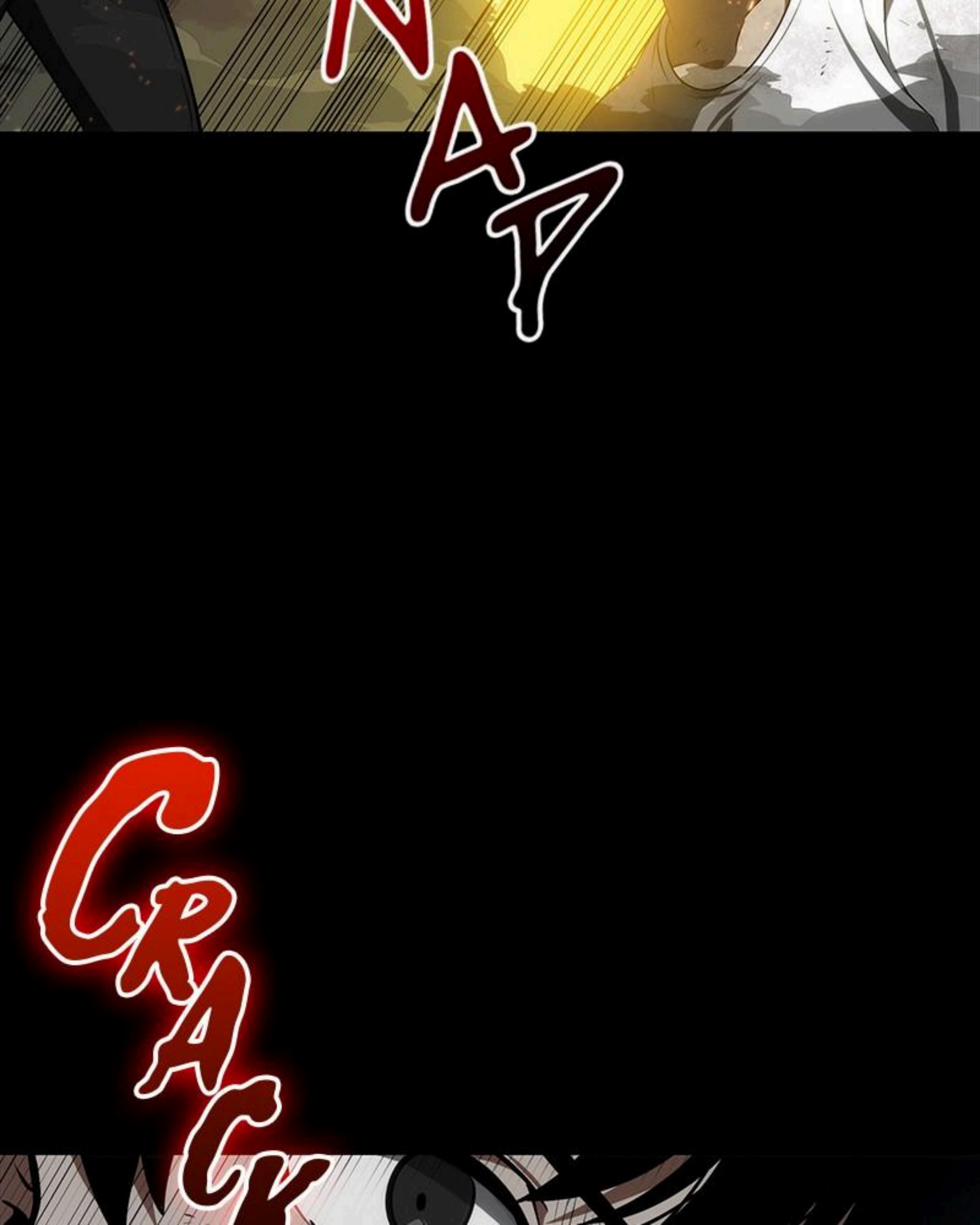
Produced/Edited by Redice Studio
Published by L7

THE END

S

CRACK
LAMM
CRACK

CRUSH
SLI


NAP
CRACK

CRACK

FLOP

OMN

ISREIA ENDER

Art by Sleepy-C | Adapted by UMI | Original Story by Singshong

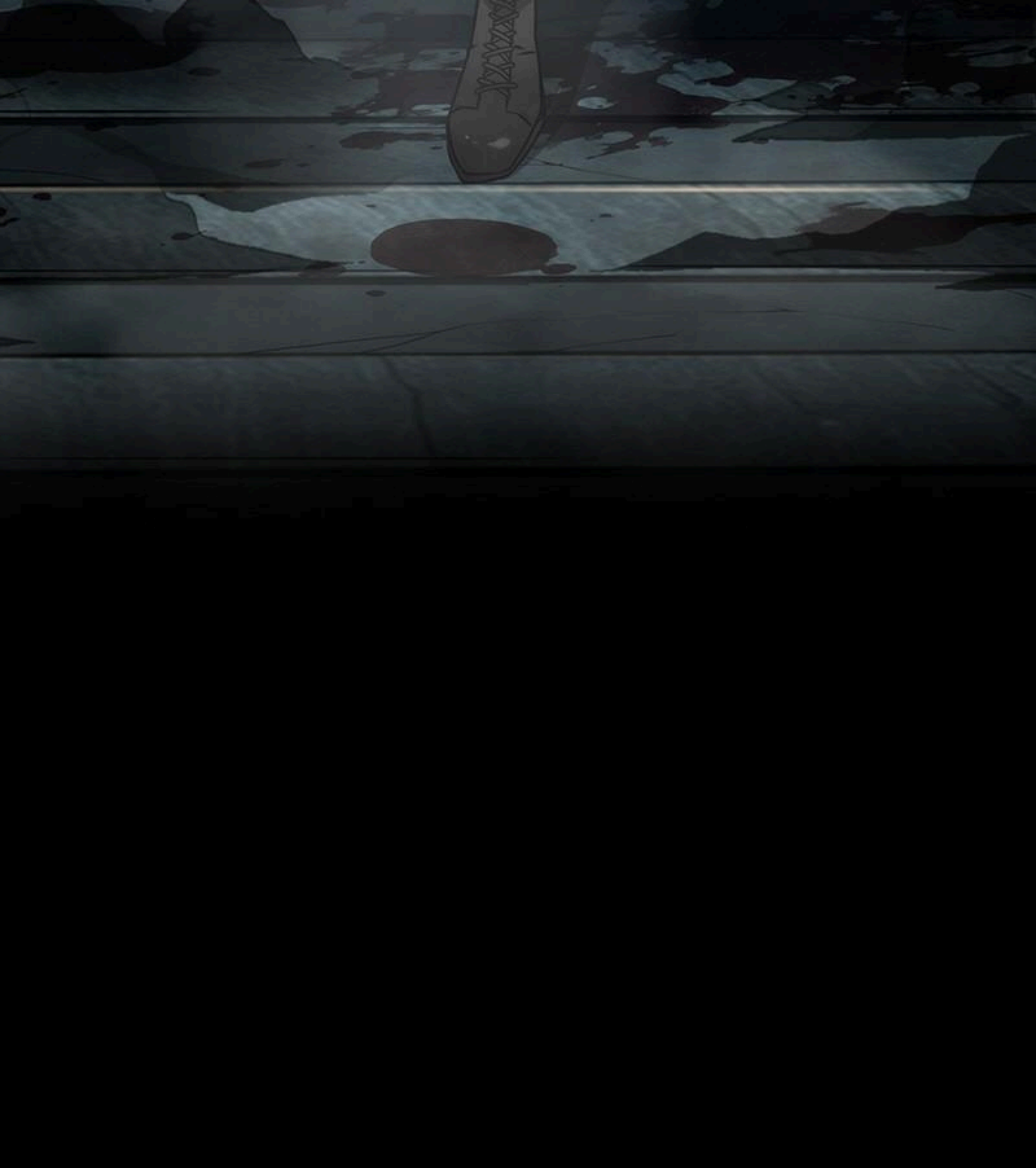
Art by Sleepy-C | Adapted by UMI | Original story by Singshong

E

Episode 11

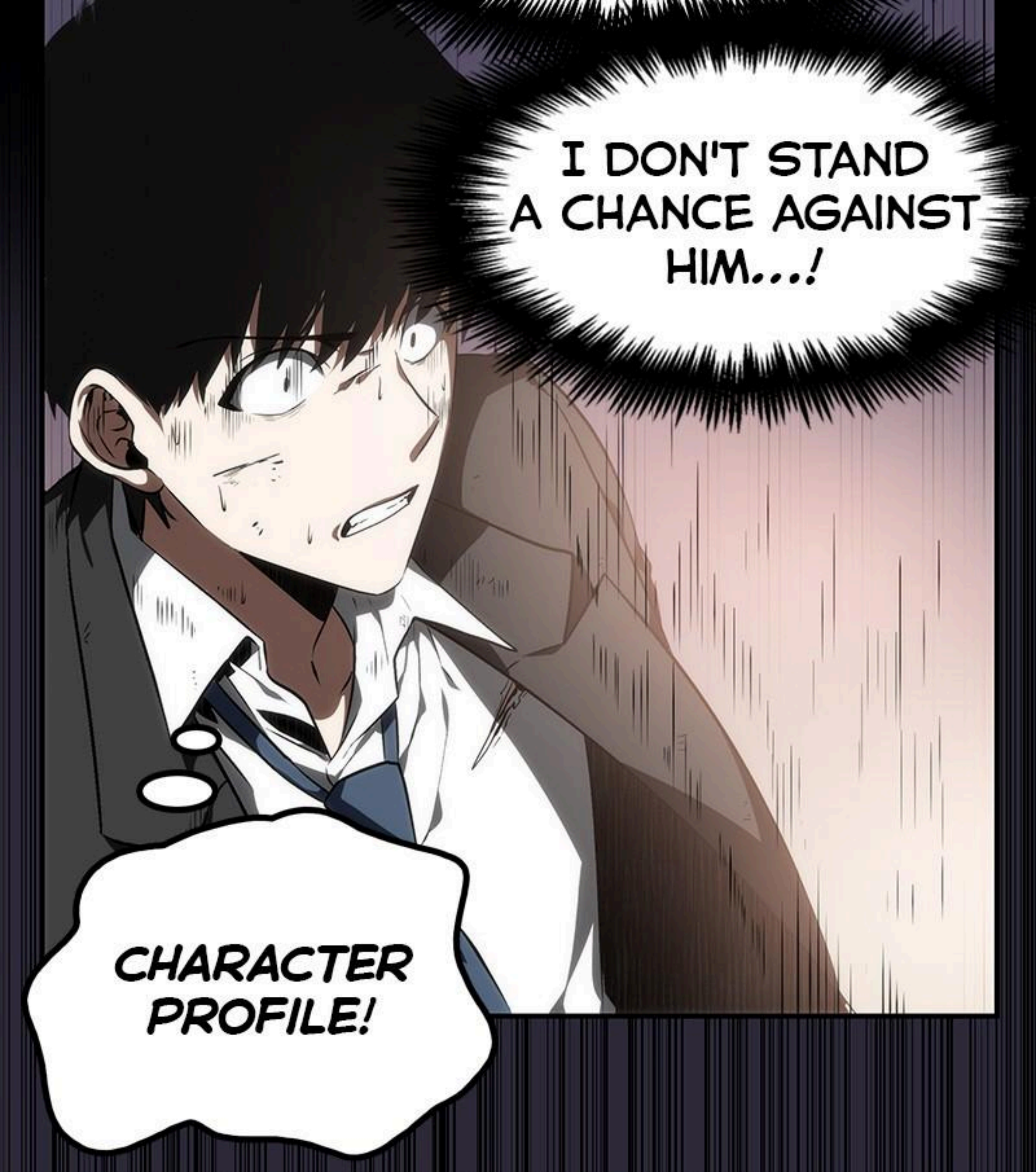
THUD

THUD
THUD



WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?

I'M SUPPOSED TO GO UP AGAINST THIS GUY?


I DON'T STAND A CHANCE AGAINST HIM...!
CHARACTER PROFILE!

DING

[PERSONAL SKILL
CHARACTER PROFILE ACTIVATED.]

DING

[THERE IS TOO MUCH INFORMATION
ABOUT THIS CHARACTER.
CONVERTING *CHARACTER PROFILE*
TO *CHARACTER SUMMARY*.]

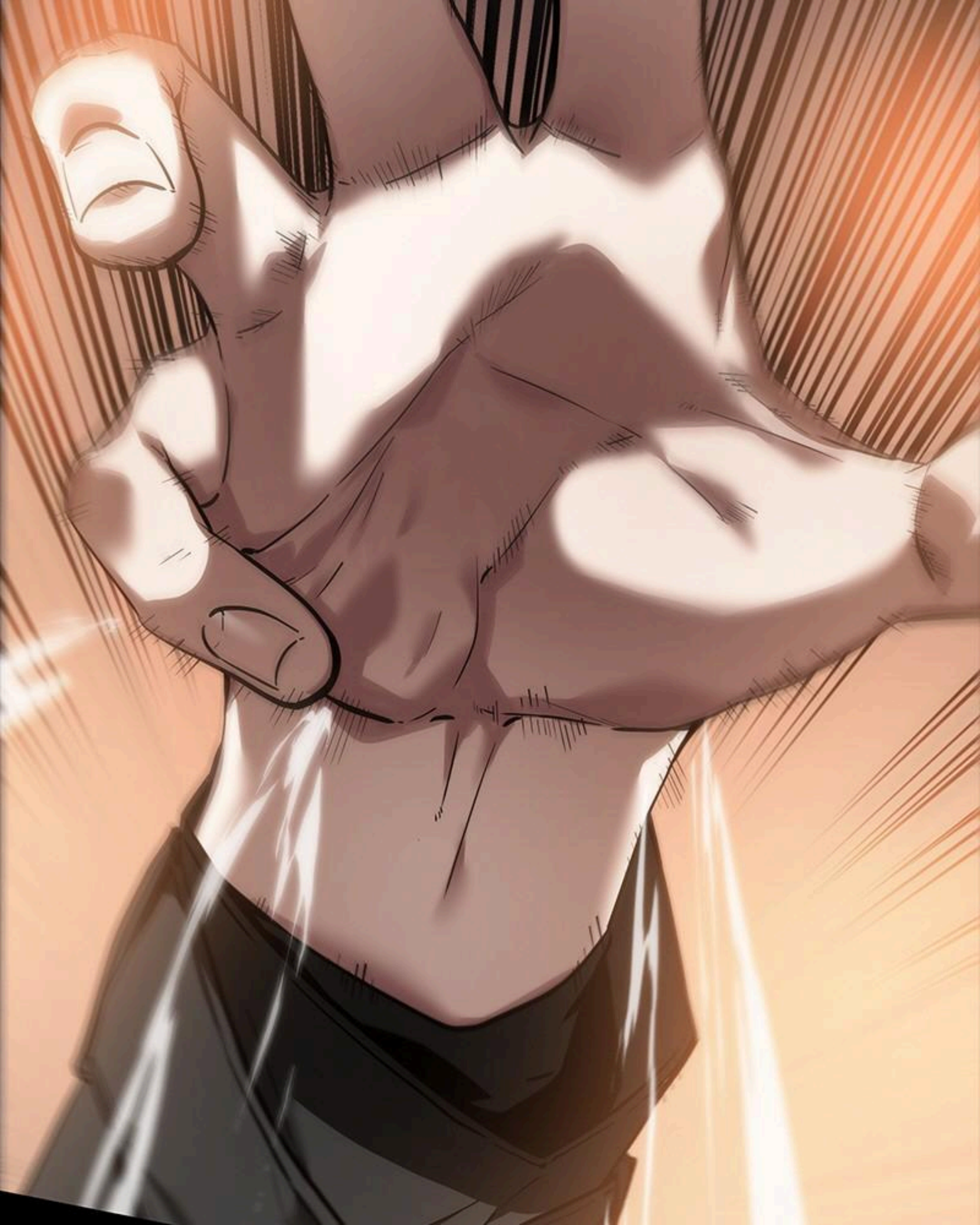
DING

<CHARACTER SUMMARY>

NAME: JUNGHYEOK YU

ATTRIBUTE: THE REGRESSOR <3RD ROUND> (MYTHICAL), PRO GAMER (RARE)

PERSONAL SKILL: [EYE OF THE SAGE LV. 8], [CLOSE COMBAT LV. 8], [WEAPONS PROFICIENCY LV. 8], [MENTAL BARRIER LV. 5], [CROWD CONTROL LV. 5], [REASONING LV. 5], [LIE DETECTION



GRAB

UGH!

COUGH
COUGH

COUGH

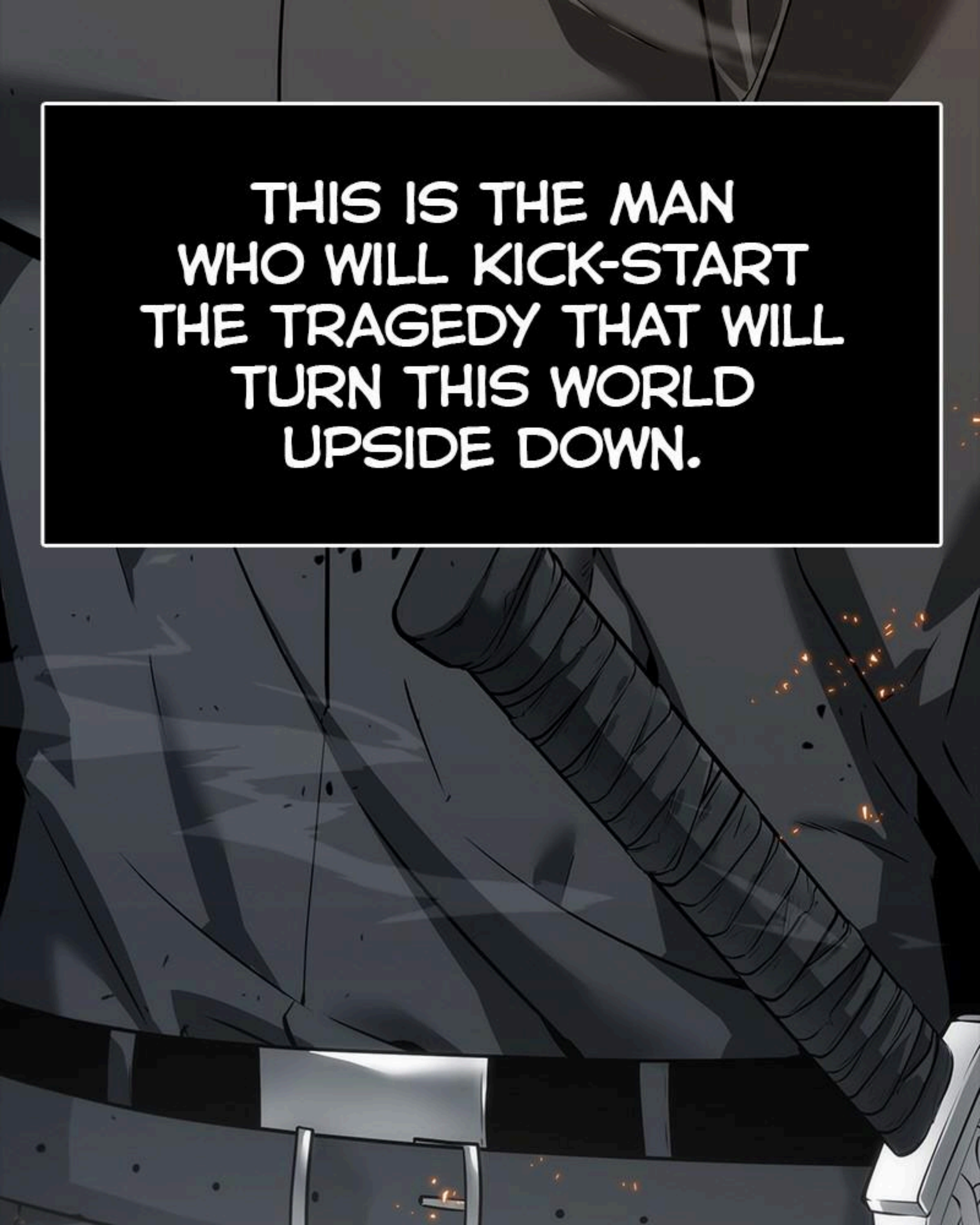
HOW ARE YOU
STILL ALIVE?

THE FIRST WAY
OF SURVIVING
THE APOCALYPSE.

THIS MAN,
WHO IS STRANGLING ME.

WHO IS STRANGLING ME,
IS LIVING PROOF OF
THE FIRST METHOD.

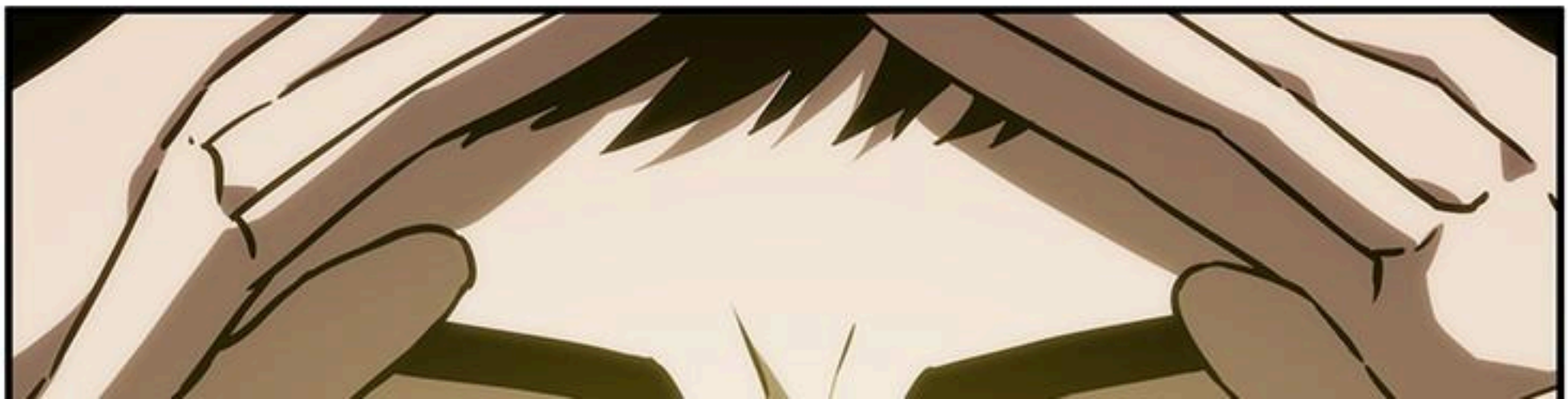
JUNGHYEOK YU,
THE REGRESSOR.


THIS IS THE MAN WHO WILL KICK-START THE TRAGEDY THAT WILL TURN THIS WORLD UPSIDE DOWN.

Chapter 2

The Protagonist

Part 5



...

IT'S NOT WORKING. I CAN'T SEE A THING.

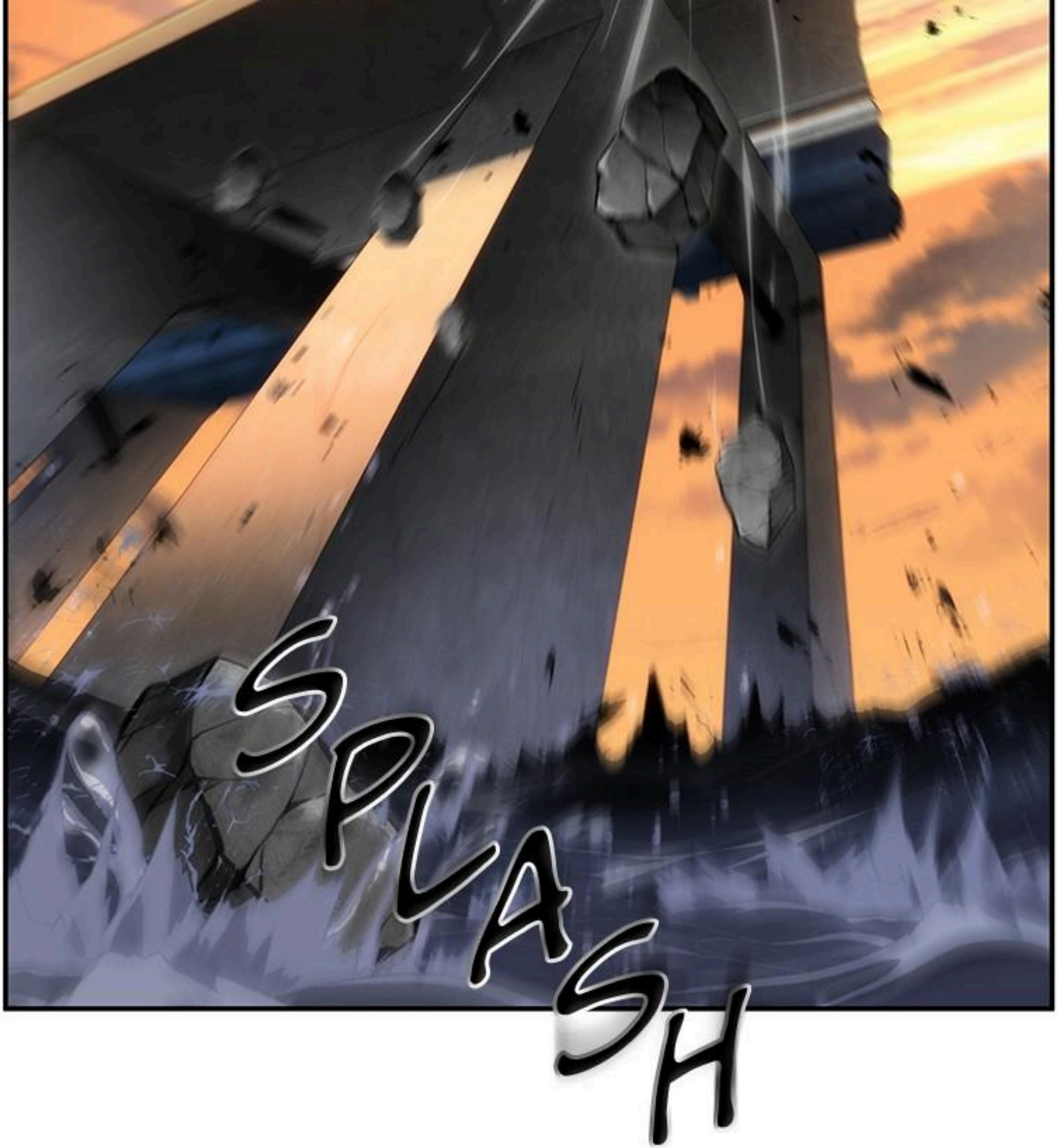
I THINK THERE'S A BARRIER LIKE THERE WAS IN

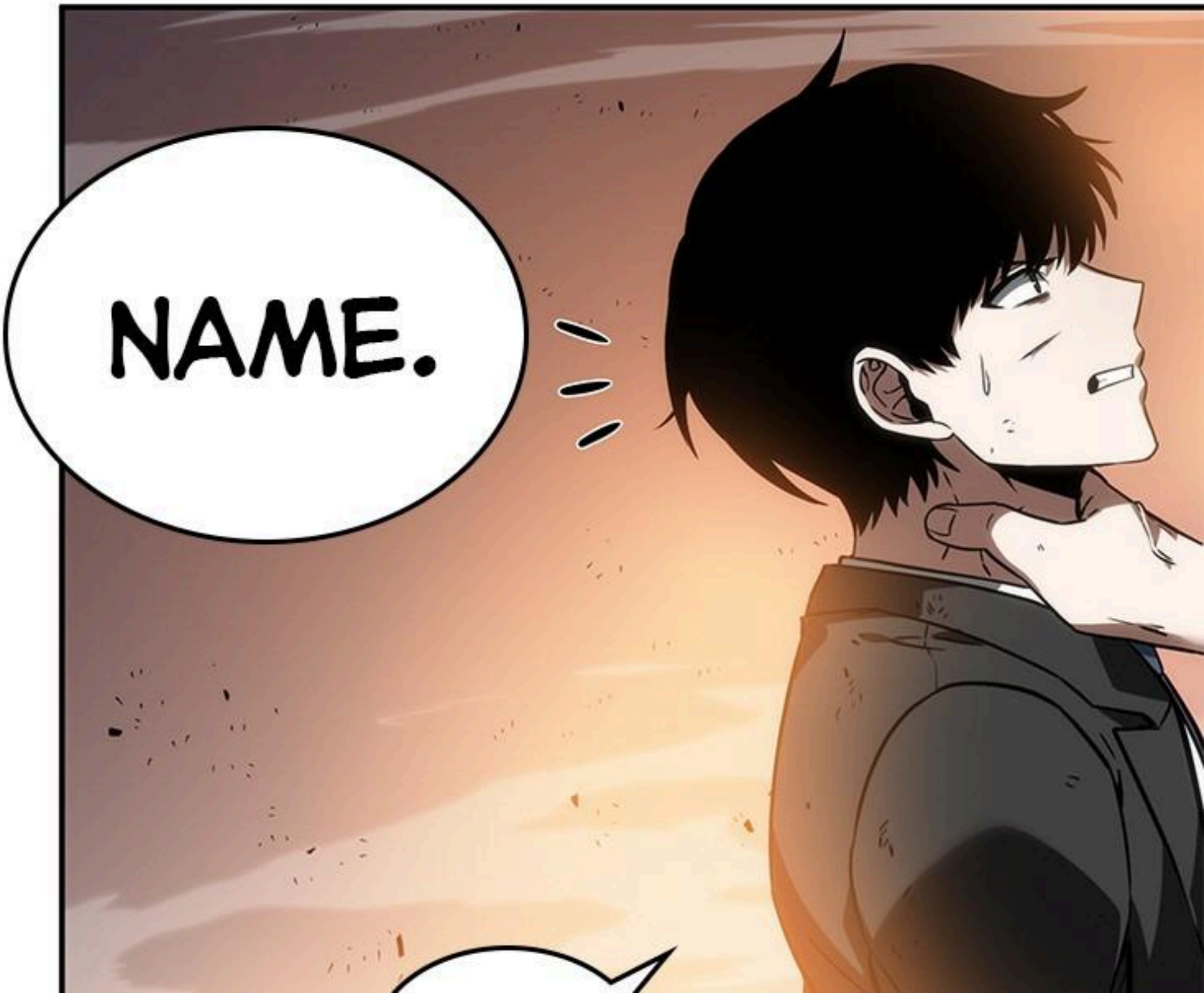
THE SUBWAY.

CRACKLE

DOKJA...

WHOOOSH


SPLASH


NAME.

WHAT?

HE'S SO FULL OF HIMSELF. HE'S DEFINITELY ACTING THE PART OF A PROTAGONIST.

DOKJA KIM.
WHAT A STRANGE NAME.
I GET THAT A LOT.

WHUMP

OOMPH...

YOU HAVE A STRONG BODY.

I SEE YOU'VE ALREADY FIGURED OUT HOW TO USE THE COINS.

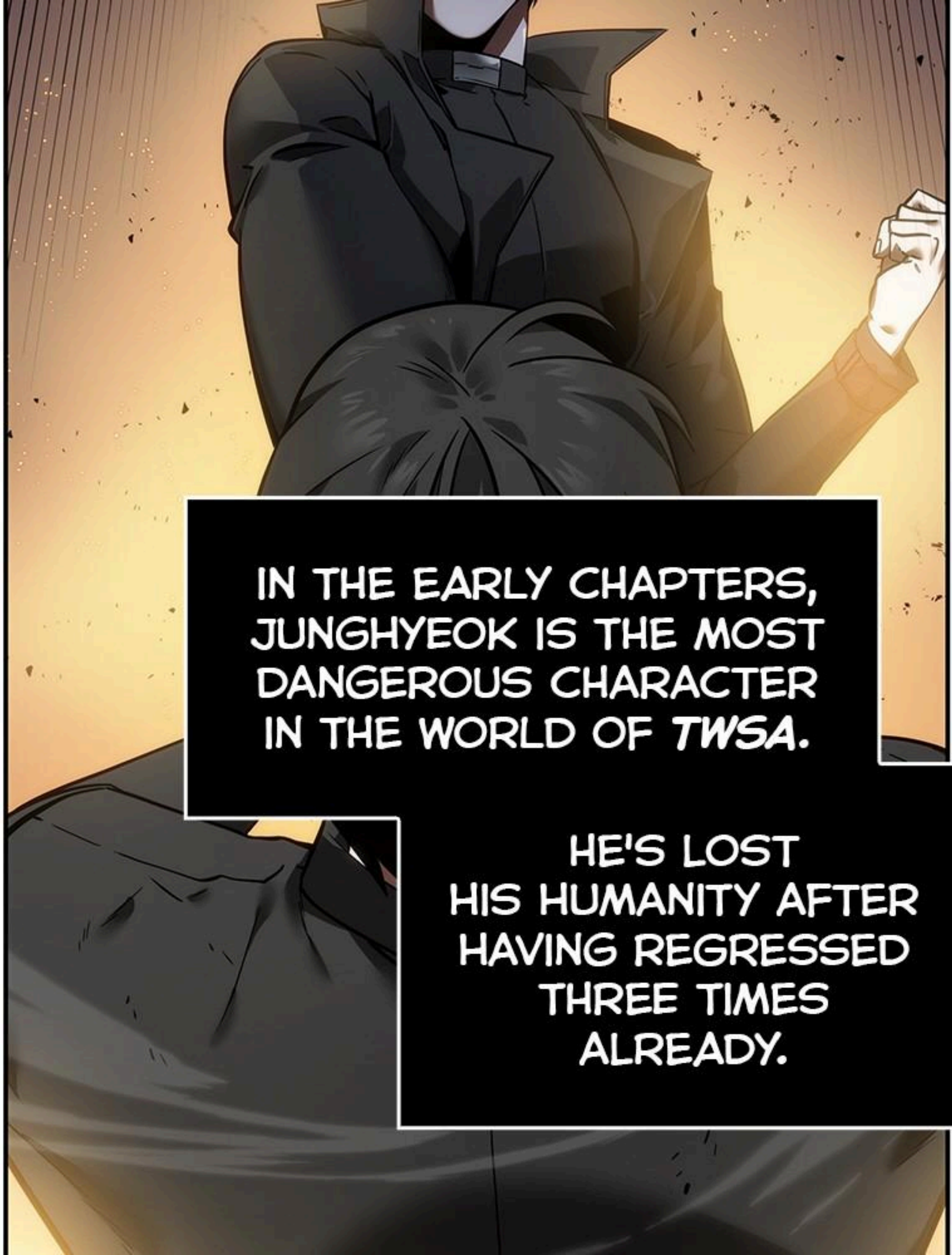
YEAH.
I'M ASSUMING
YOU ALSO--

WHAMP
UGH...!
DAMN IT...
HOW IS HE SO STRONG
WHEN WE'VE ONLY CLEARED
ONE MAIN MISSION AND
WE'RE JUST NOW CLEARING
A SUB MISSION?
WHAT A
MONSTER...

DON'T WASTE YOUR BREATH.
JUST ANSWER THE QUESTIONS I ASK YOU, GOT IT?

THIS IS THE WORST.

I WAS HOPING THIS WOULDN'T HAPPEN.


IN THE EARLY CHAPTERS, JUNGHYEOK IS THE MOST DANGEROUS CHARACTER IN THE WORLD OF *TWSA*.
HE'S LOST HIS HUMANITY AFTER HAVING REGRESSED THREE TIMES ALREADY.

THE JUNGHYEOK
NOW WON'T HESITATE
TO DO WHATEVER IT TAKES
TO GET WHAT HE WANTS.

FINE.
SHOW ME SOME RESPECT.

WHY SHOULD I?

OOMPH...!

...!
SORRY, BUT YOU'RE YOUNGER THAN ME,
PRO GAMER JUNGHYEOK YU.

SO YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SHOULD SHOW ME SOME RESPECT.

DING

[JUNGHYEOK YU HAS BECOME CAUTIOUS OF YOU.]

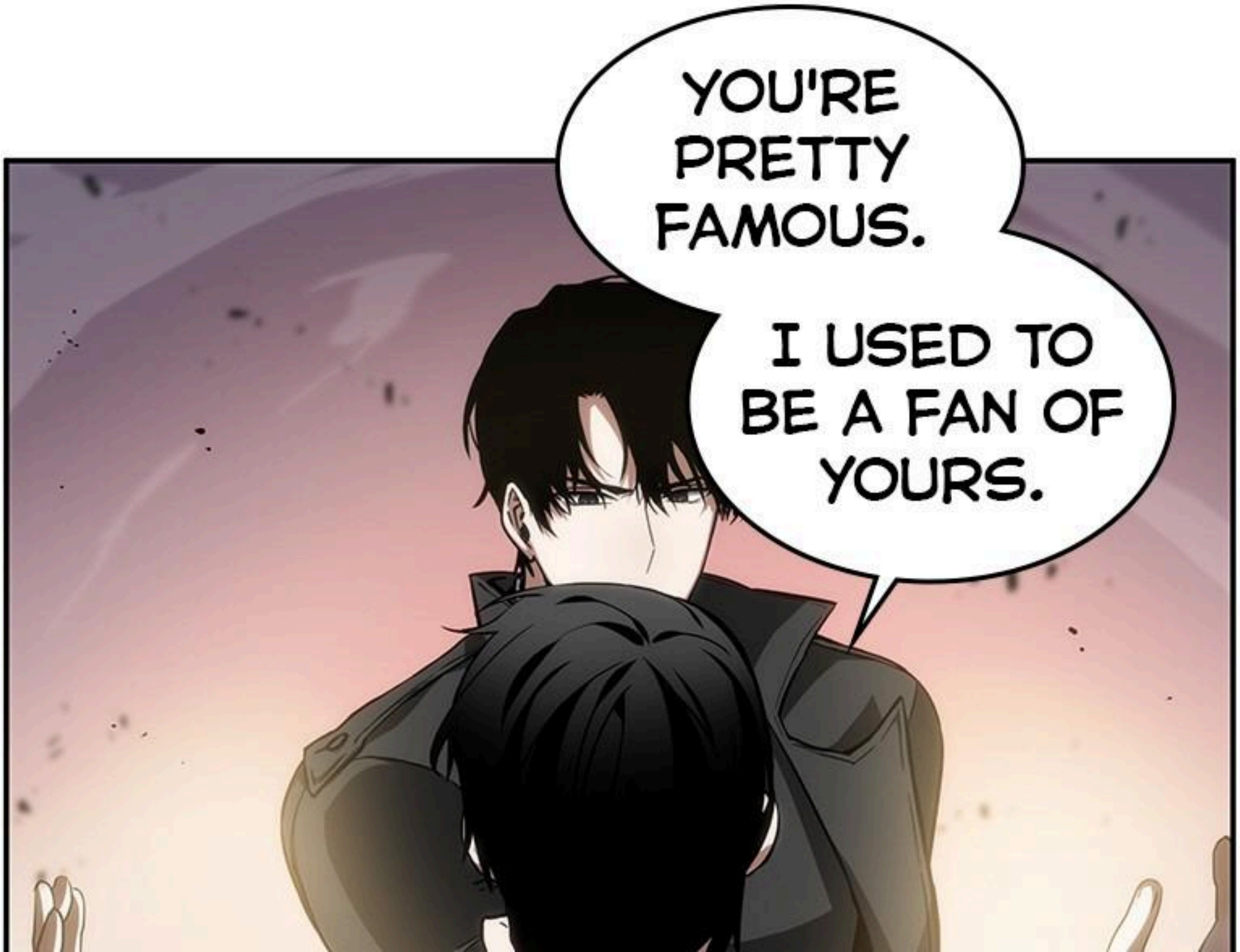
DO YOU KNOW WHO

I AM?

OF COURSE.
I WORK FOR A
GAME COMPANY.

THAT'S
A LIE.

JUNGHYEOK YU
WAS BUT A FICTIONAL
CHARACTER TO ME
EXISTING IN *TWSA*.
THAT IS, UNTIL NOW.


YOU'RE PRETTY FAMOUS.
I USED TO BE A FAN OF YOURS.

AND HIS FAME WAS JUST A SETTING IN THE NOVEL...

...BUT I'M NOT LYING WHEN I'M SAYING THAT I USED TO BE A *FAN* OF HIS.

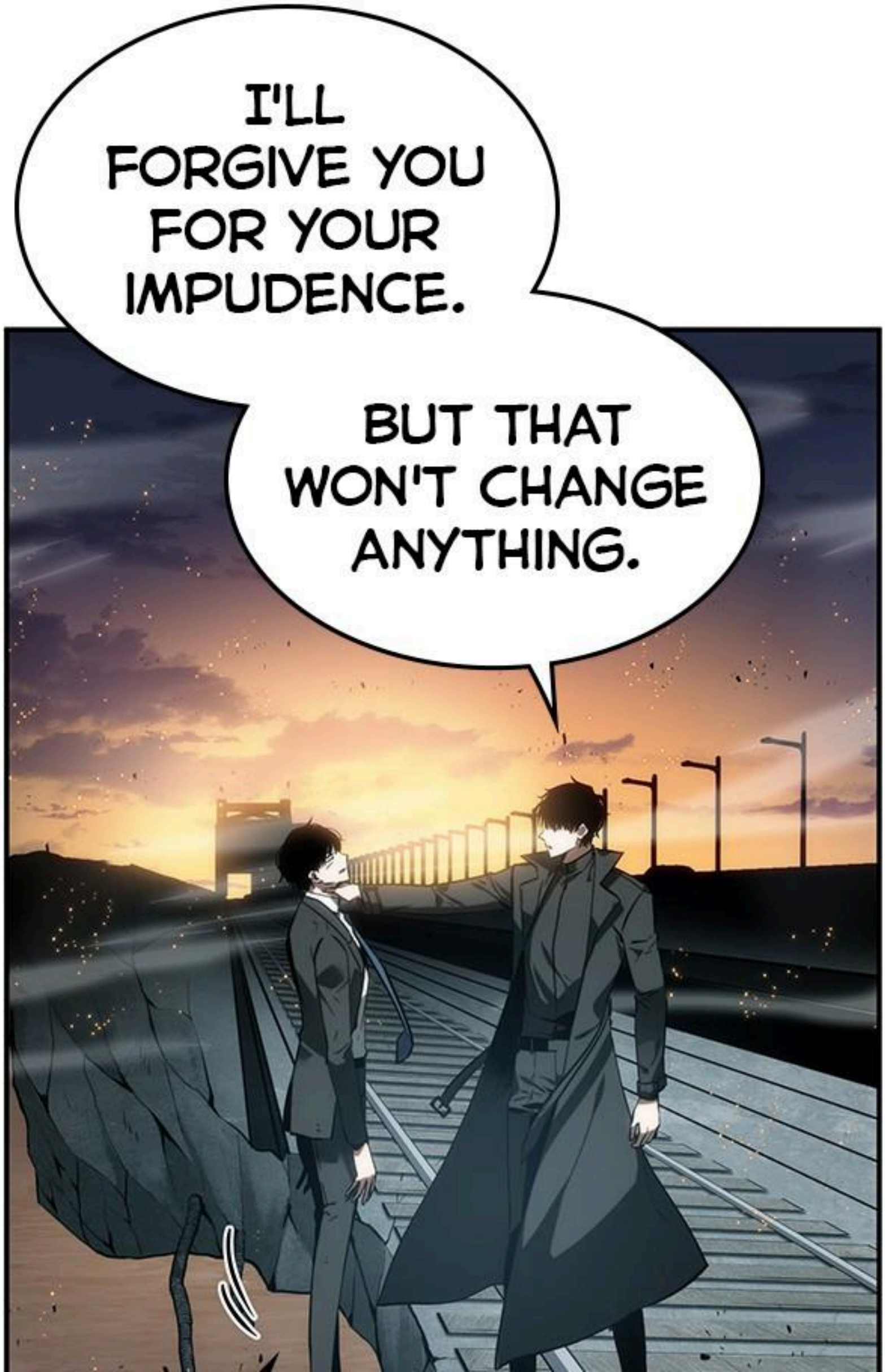
I LIKED YOU,
HATED YOU,
RESENTED YOU,
AND CHEERED FOR YOU.

I WAS WITH YOU THROUGHOUT YOUR THREE-THOUSAND EPISODE JOURNEY.

A FAN...

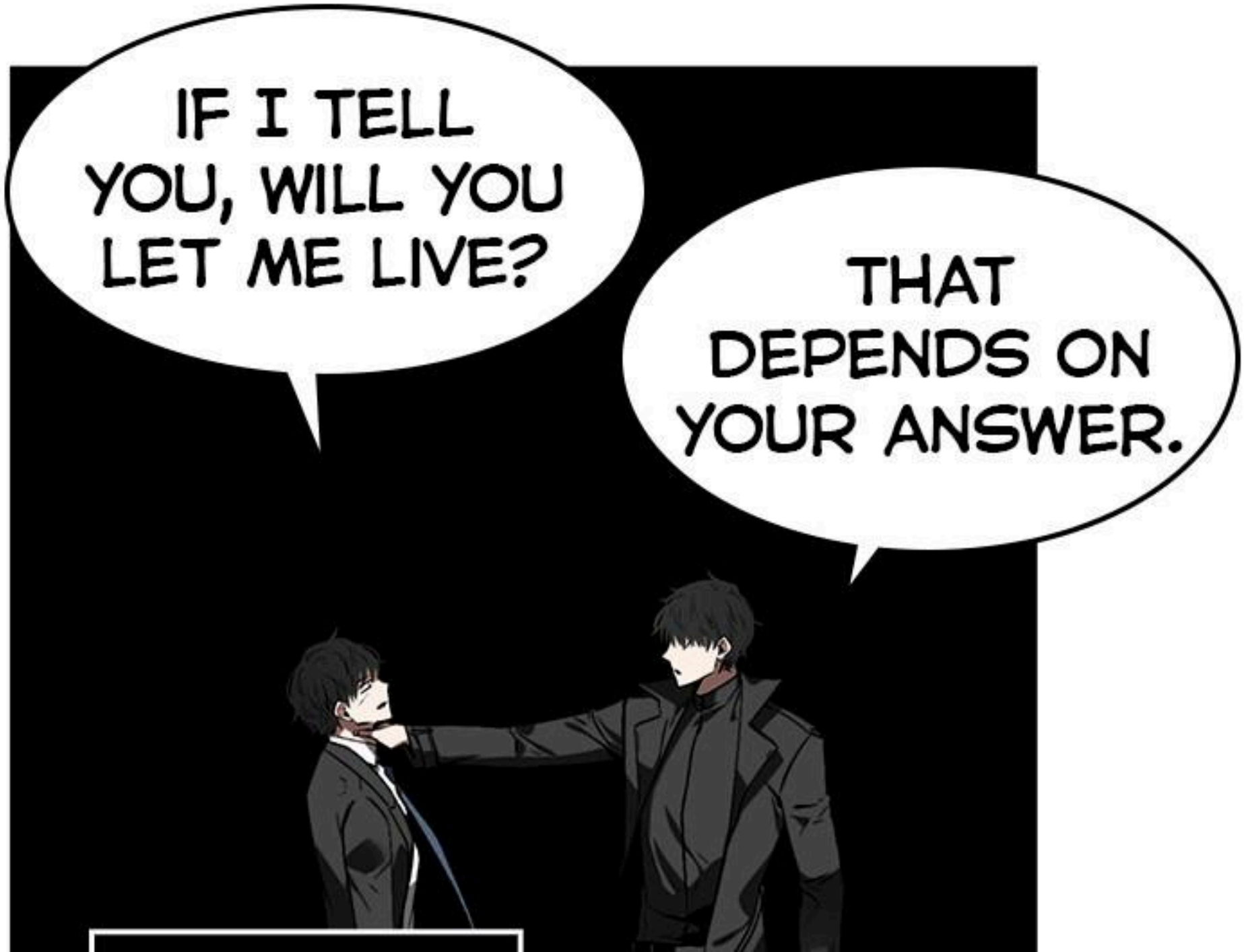
I HAVEN'T HEARD THAT IN A WHILE

IN A WHILE.


I'LL FORGIVE YOU FOR YOUR IMPUDENCE.
BUT THAT WON'T CHANGE ANYTHING.

I CAN SEE THAT.
I HAVE ONLY ONE QUESTION FOR YOU.

HOW DID YOU SURVIVE THE SUBWAY?
I KNEW HE WOULD ASK ME THIS.


IF I TELL YOU, WILL YOU LET ME LIVE?
THAT DEPENDS ON YOUR ANSWER.

LIAR.

I CAN TELL JUST BY LOOKING AT HIS FACE.

I'M NOT THE ONLY READER OF *TWSA* FOR NOTHING.

WHAT CAN I SAY TO MAKE THIS DAMN REGRESSOR LET ME LIVE?

[YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF *JUNGHYEOK YU* HAS INCREASED.]

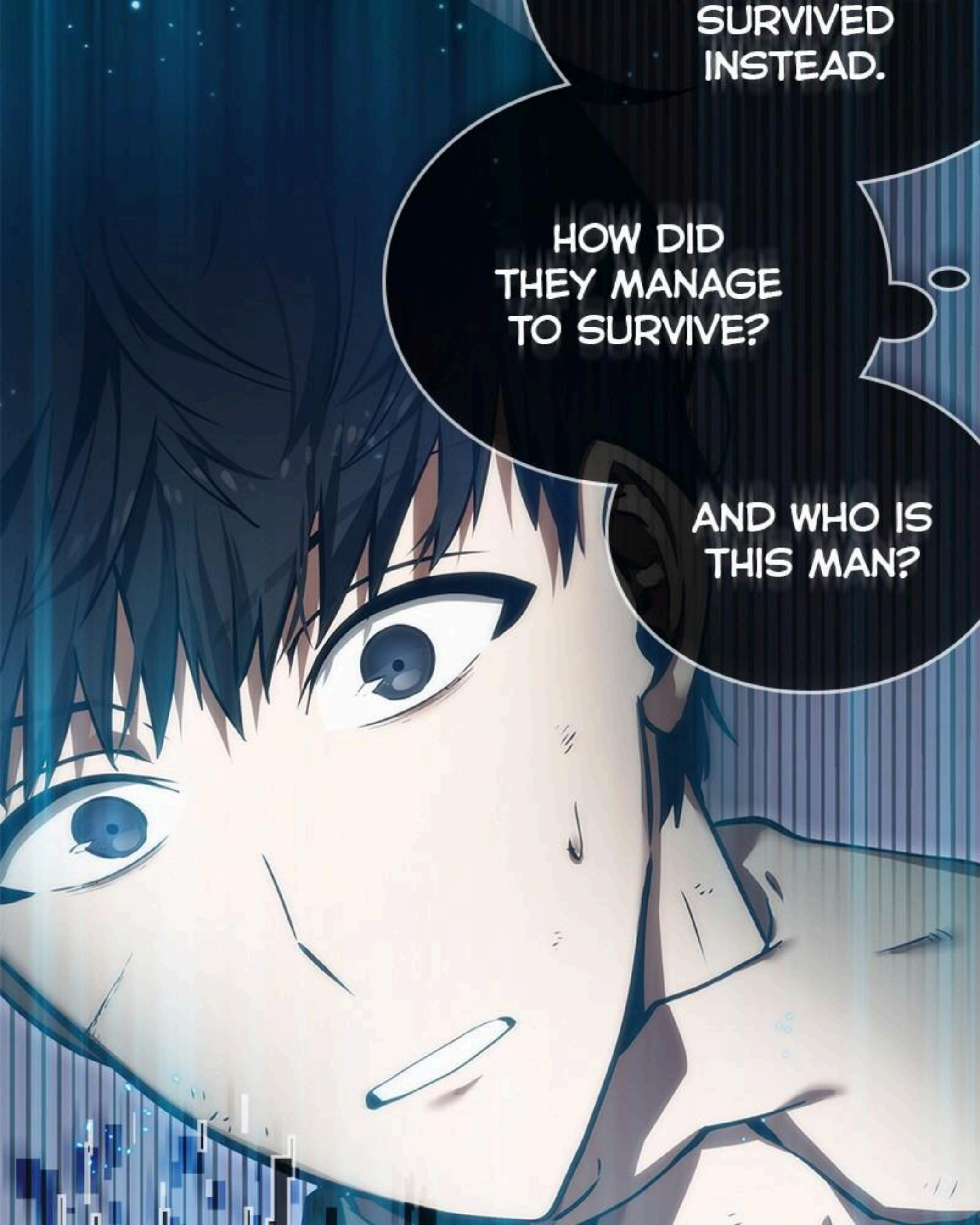
[YOU ALREADY HAVE A HIGH UNDERSTANDING OF THIS CHARACTER.]

[YOU HAVE UNLOCKED LEVEL 2 OF YOUR PERSONAL SKILL, *OMNISCIENT READER'S VIEWPOINT*!]

[ACTIVATE YOUR PERSONAL SKILL?]

ONLY HYEONSEONG LEE AND NAMWOON KIM WERE SUPPOSED TO SURVIVE.

BUT NAMWOON KIM IS DEAD AND OTHER PEOPLE


SURVIVED INSTEAD.
HOW DID THEY MANAGE TO SURVIVE?
AND WHO IS THIS MAN?

I NEED INFORMATION. IF I DEEM HIM A THREAT...
I WILL KILL HIM.
CAN I READ HIS MIND?

HIS MIND?

LIKE I COULD WITH NAMWOON?

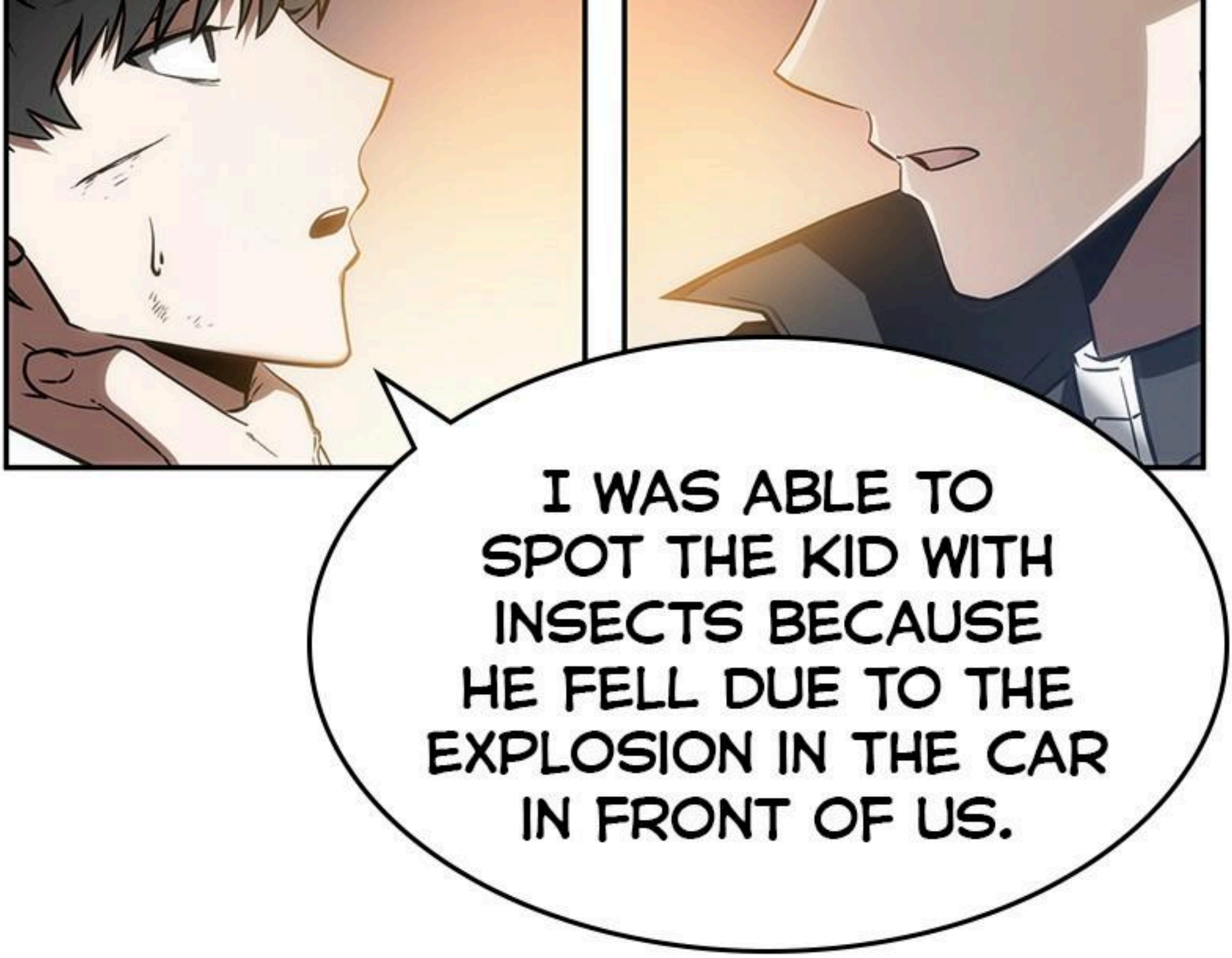
SMIRK

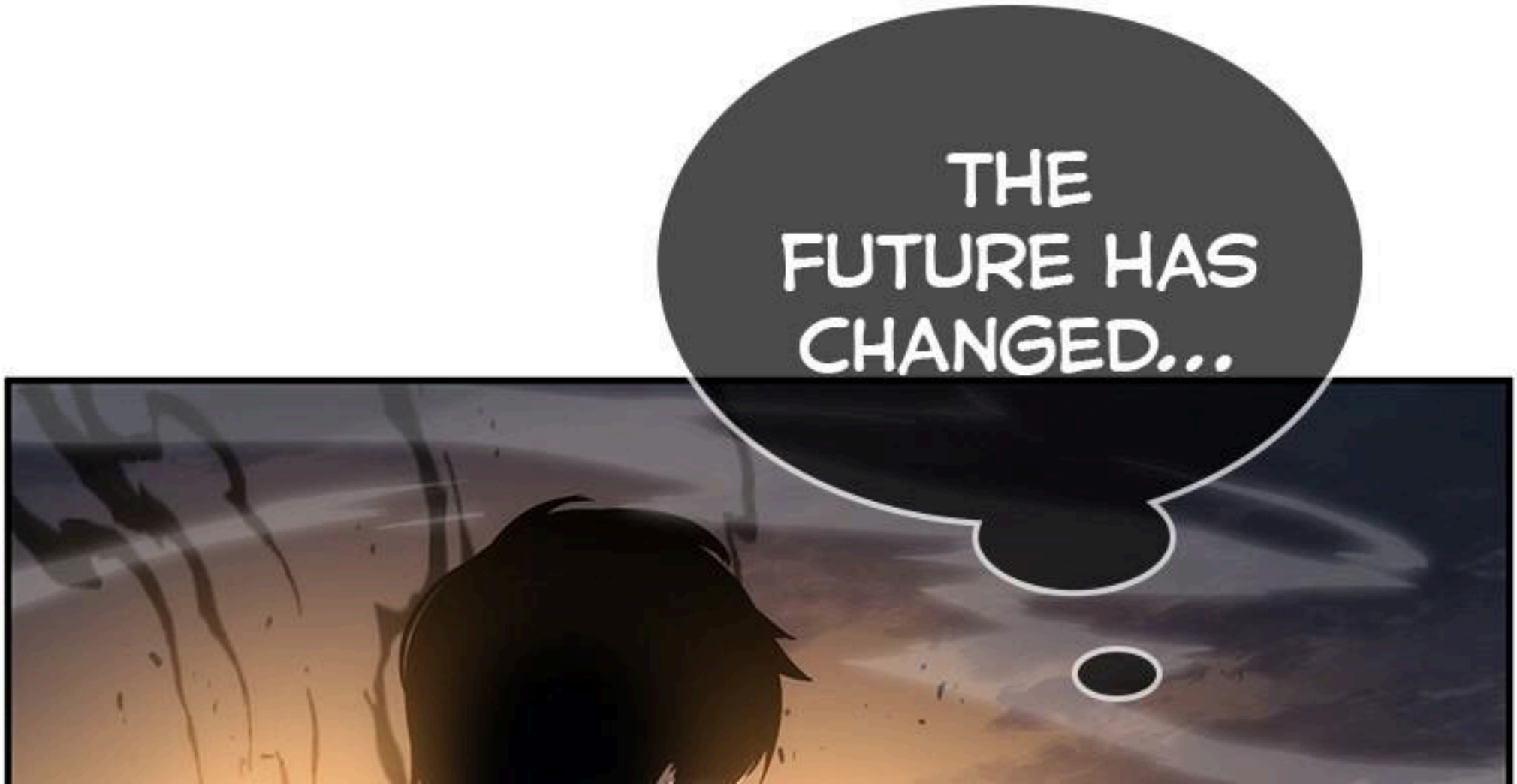
HOW I MANAGED TO SURVIVE IS...
00:05:01

00:03:01

YOU CLEARED THE SCENARIO BY KILLING INSECTS?

I WAS LUCKY.


I WAS ABLE TO SPOT THE KID WITH INSECTS BECAUSE HE FELL DUE TO THE EXPLOSION IN THE CAR IN FRONT OF US.

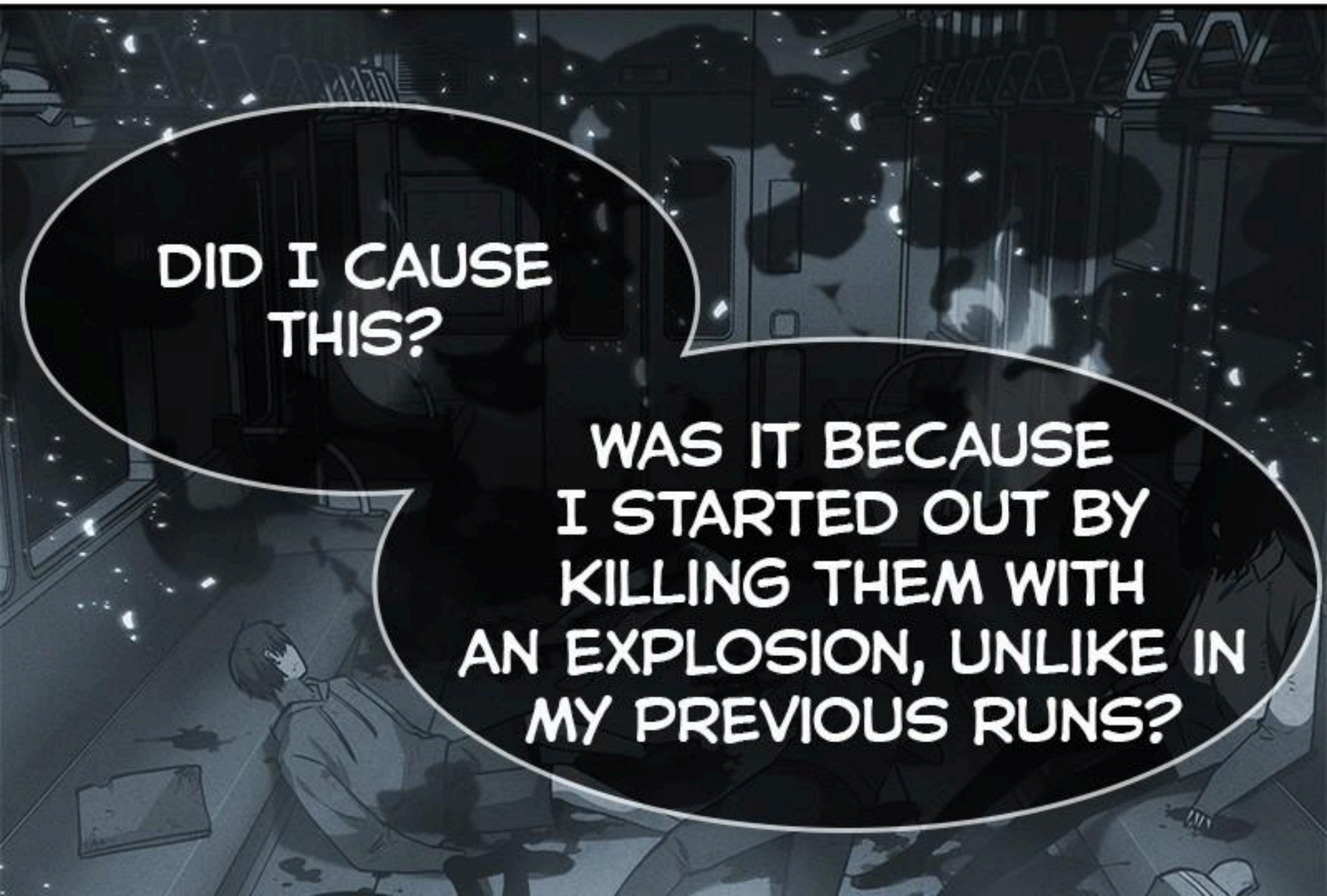

THE FUTURE HAS CHANGED...

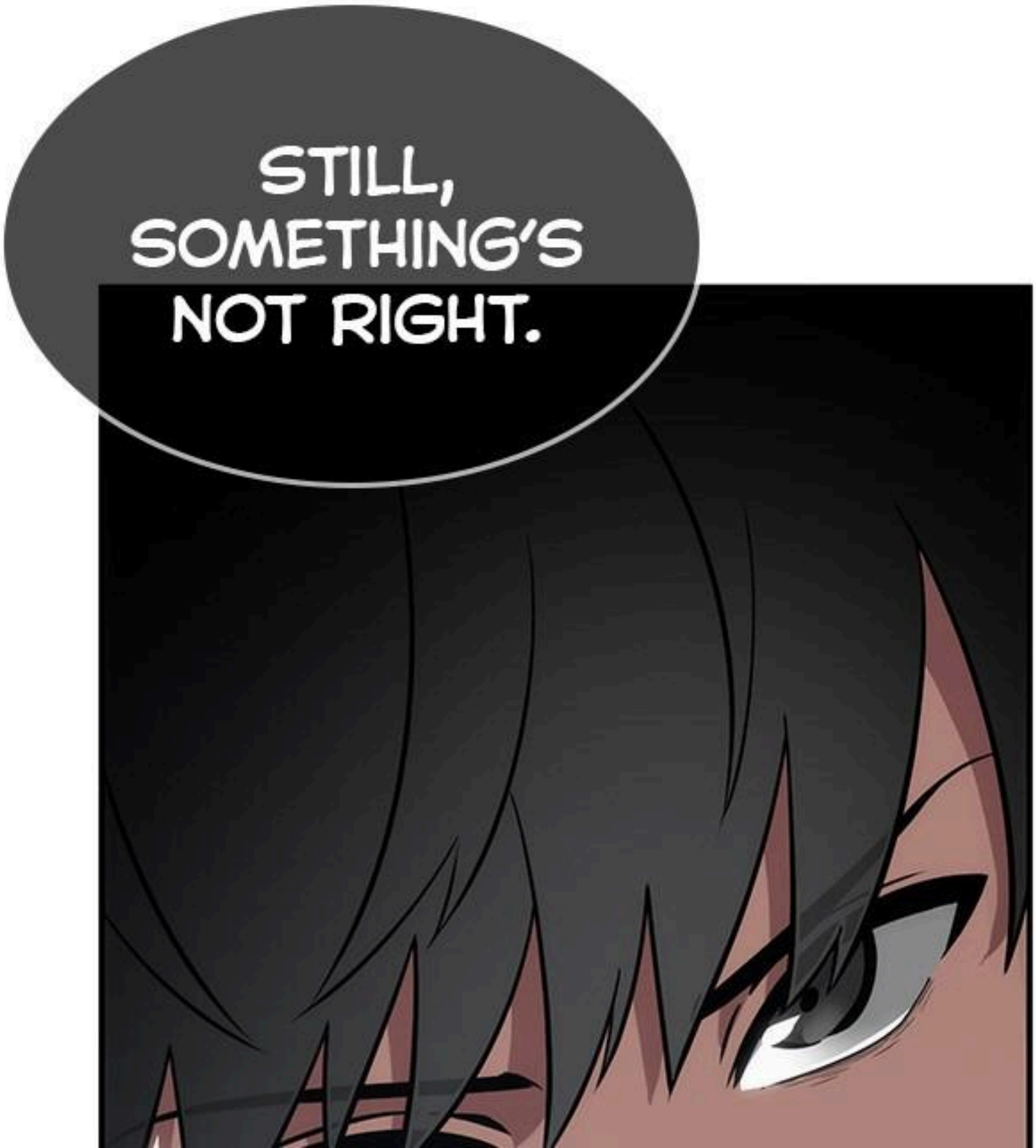
THE EXPLOSION... THE INSECTS...

IT WILL COME AS A SHOCK TO HIM.

YOUR MOUTH IS WIDE OPEN.

THERE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A BATTLE TO THE DEATH IN SUBWAY CAR 3807 AND ONLY NAMWOON KIM AND HYEONSEONG LEE SHOULD HAVE SURVIVED.

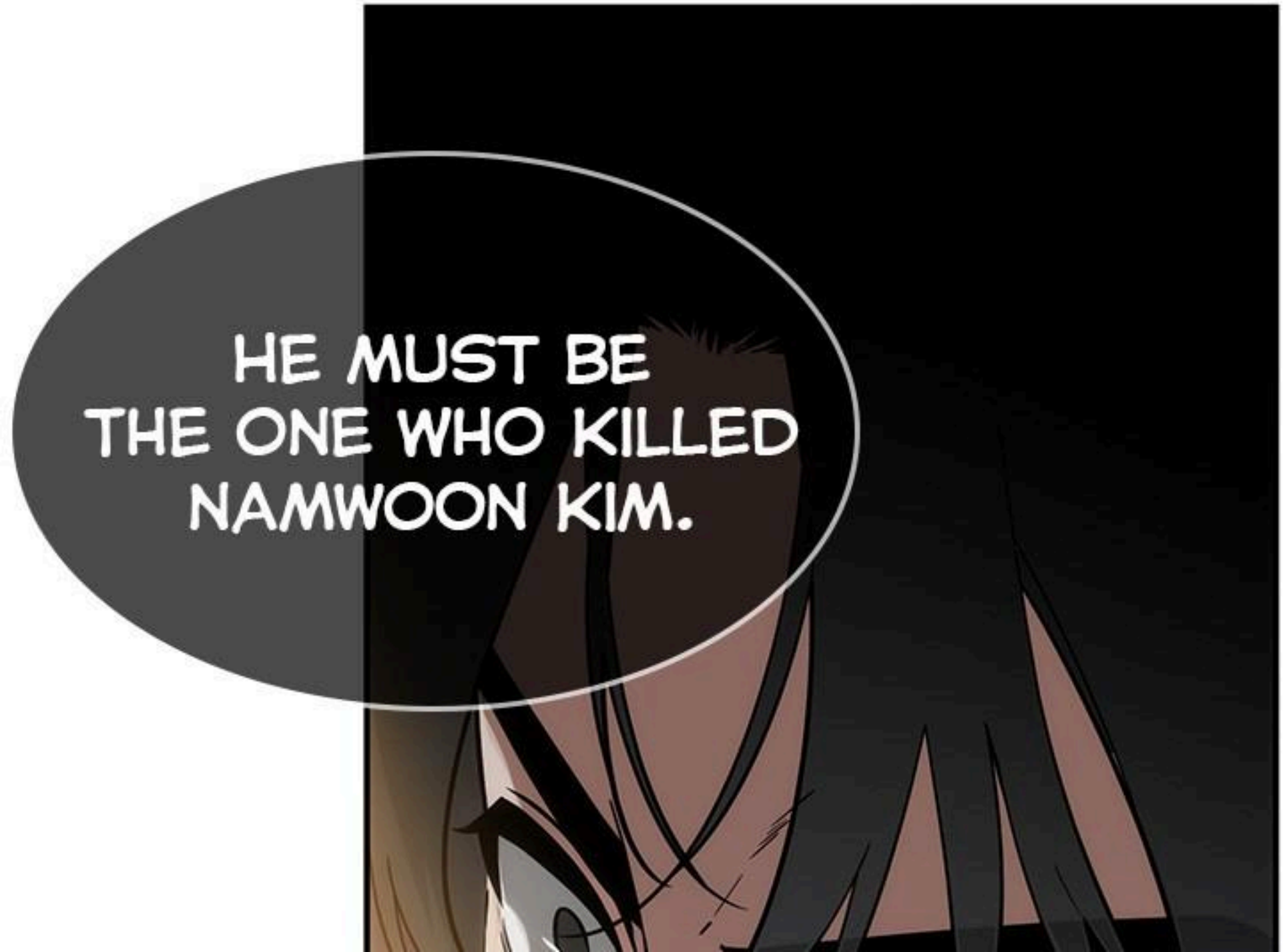

DID I CAUSE THIS?
WAS IT BECAUSE I STARTED OUT BY KILLING THEM WITH AN EXPLOSION, UNLIKE IN MY PREVIOUS RUNS?


STILL, SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT.

HE'S TOO CALM FOR A NEWBIE.

THE WORLD HAS TURNED UPSIDE DOWN AND HE'S TAKING IT IN STRIDE. ABNORMALLY

SO.



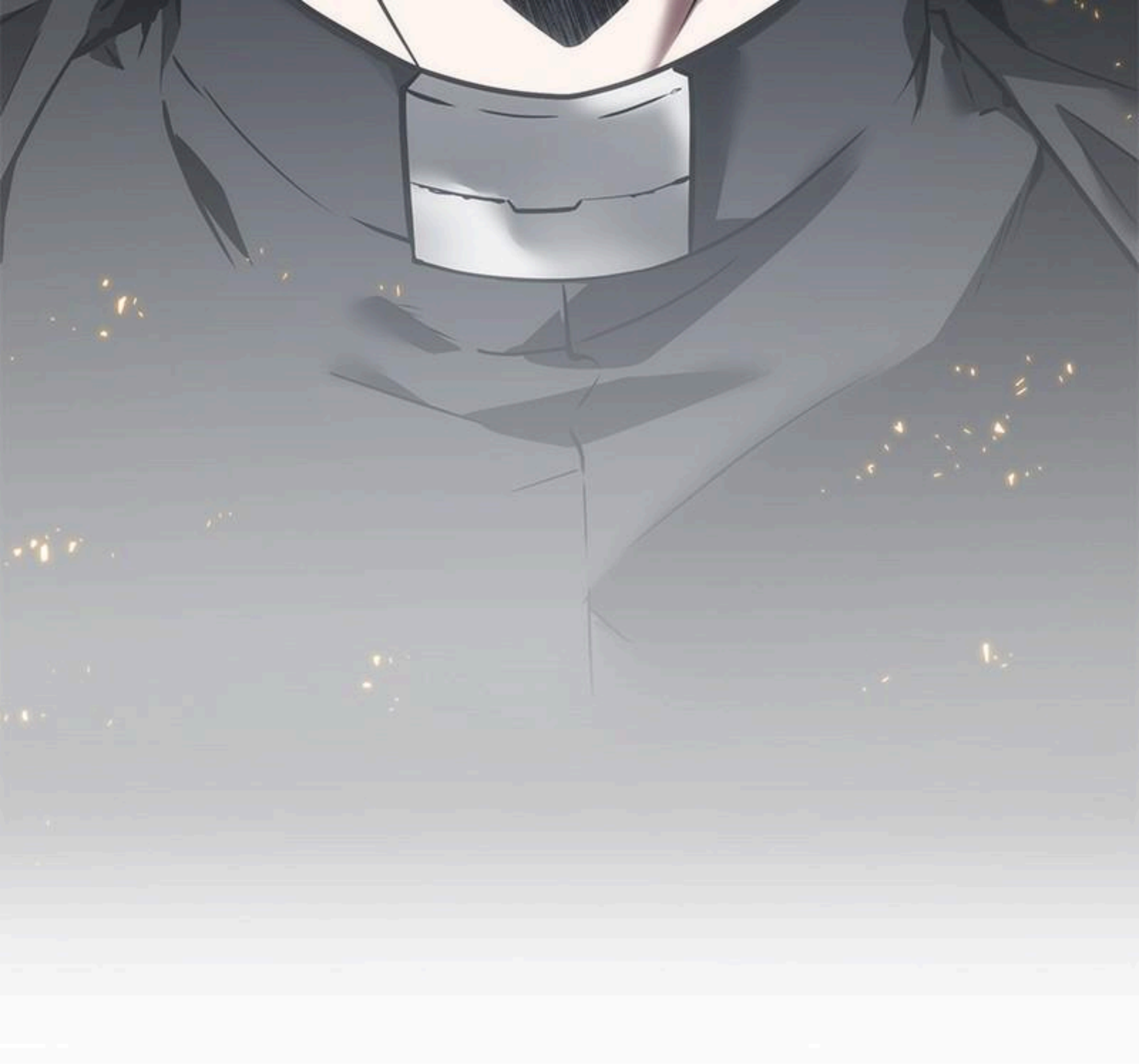
HE'S MUCH MORE THAN JUST USEFUL...
HE'S DANGEROUS.

UM, IF YOU'RE DONE WITH YOUR QUESTIONS, CAN YOU LET ME GO?
LET'S MOVE ON TO OKSU STATION TOGETHER. WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME.
SQUEEZE

ACK...

NOT SO FAST.

EVERYTHING FITS TOO PERFECTLY.



!
THIS IS...!

IT'S JUNGHYEOK'S SS-GRADE SKILL.

[THE EYE OF THE SAGE]!

[*THE EYE OF THE SAGE*] NOT ONLY ALLOWS YOU TO SEE SOMEONE'S ATTRIBUTES WINDOW,

BUT ALSO SOMEONE'S HIDDEN INFORMATION. IT'S THE HIGHEST GRADE DETECTION SKILL.

I'VE BEEN WONDERING WHY HE WASN'T USING IT.

NO. MAYBE THIS IS FOR THE BEST.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT MY ***ATTRIBUTES*** ARE OR WHAT ***SKILLS*** I HAVE.

EVEN IF JUNGHYEOK FINDS OUT WHAT THEY ARE, IF I COULD KNOW AS WELL...

DING

[PERSONAL SKILL
THE FOURTH WALL
ACTIVATED.]

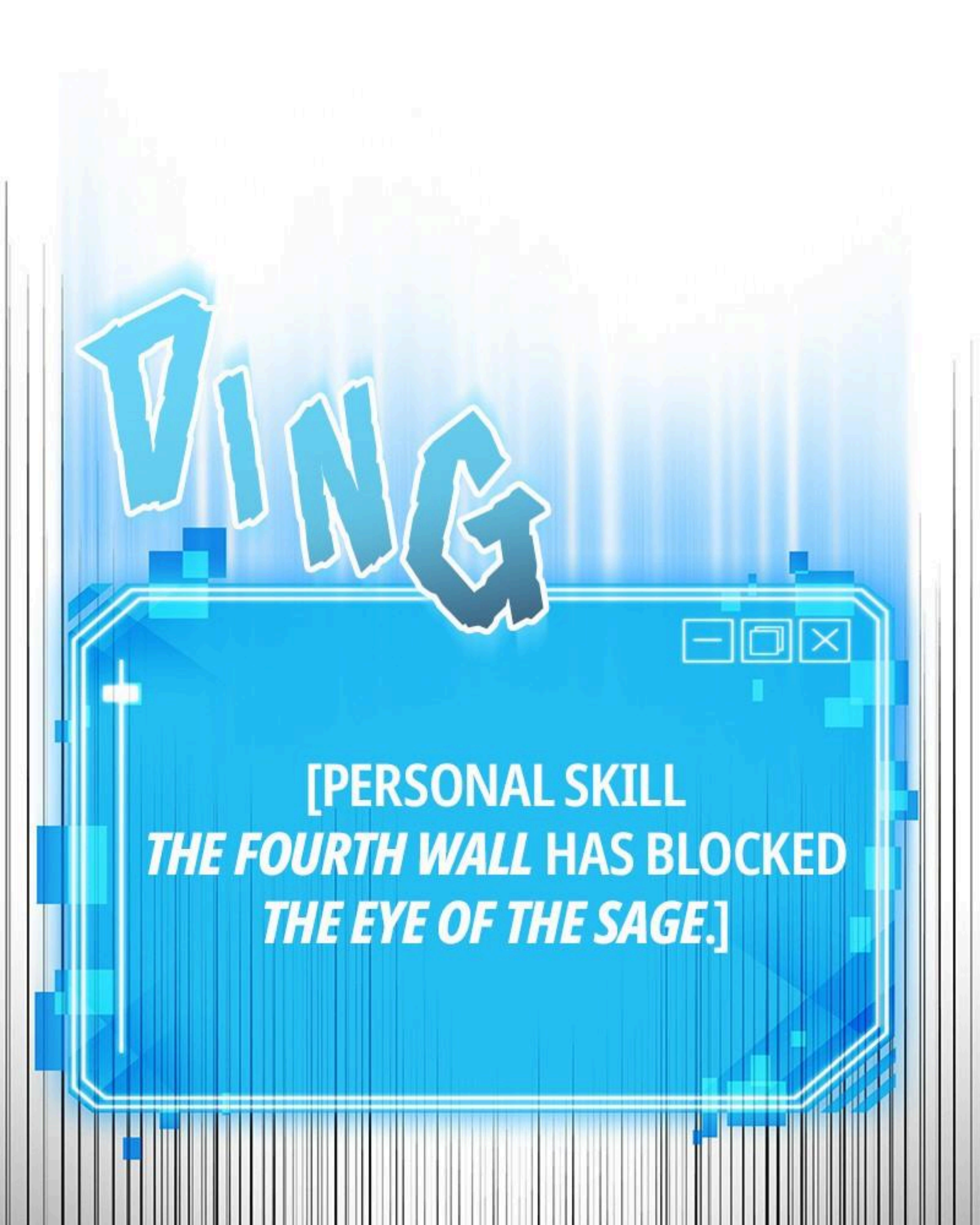
DING

[THE FOURTH WALL HAS
DETECTED THE DETECTION SKIL
THE EYE OF

EYE OF THE SAGE.]

CRACKLE
CRACKLE
UGH!

WOBBLE
WHAT...?


DING
[PERSONAL SKILL
THE FOURTH WALL HAS BLOCKED
THE EYE OF THE SAGE.]

FLINCH
FLINCH
YOU...

WHAT ARE YOU?

<SUB SCENARIO - ESCAPE>

CATEGORY: SUB

DIFFICULTY: D

CLEAR CONDITIONS:
GET ACROSS THE COLLAPSED BRIDGE AND ENTER OKSU STATION.

TIME LIMIT: 20 MINUTES

REWARD: 200 COINS

PENALTY FOR FAILURE: ???

TIME REMAINING:
2 MINUTES
14 SECONDS

Produced/Edited by Redice Studio
Published by L7